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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

Vol. 54 APRIL 15, 1929 No. 8

HERBERT PUTNAM—LIBRARIAN

WILLIAM WARNER BISHOP

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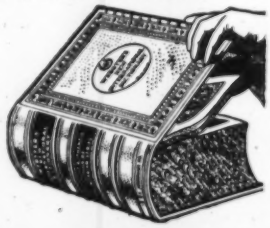

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25 cents single copy. *Five dollars a year.*

R. R. BOWKER, *Editor* BERTINE E. WESTON, *Managing Editor*

VOLUME 54, No. 8 APRIL 15, 1929

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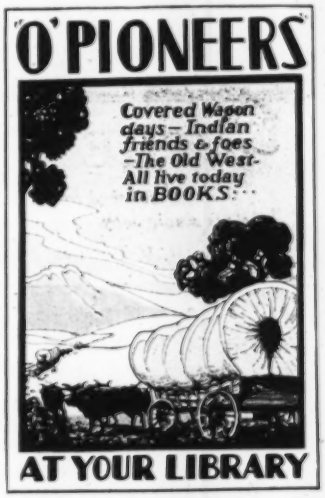

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

APRIL 15, 1929

Herbert Putnam—Librarian

By William Warner Bishop
Librarian, University of Michigan

THESE words signed at the bottom of a memorandum, a letter or a document have come to signify so much to those who have been reading them for thirty years and more that it is perhaps fitting to try to express something of what they stand for in the library world.

First and last and above all, they stand for a man. When all is said and done, personality counts for more than anything else in this world, and Herbert Putnam is a real person. No one can be with him for five minutes without realizing the force of his character. Sincerity, gaiety, driving power, tact, wisdom, kindliness are some of the qualities that go to make up that sum of abilities and characteristics which we recognize instinctively, and to which we respond loyally.

Devotion to his task, is perhaps the keynote of his thirty years' service as Librarian of Congress. That devotion has led him to sink himself in his work—nothing else has ever taken the first place in his life, save the Library War Service in 1917-19. He has been preeminently the librarian. Manifold temptations to other fields, or to a divided interest, he has passed by. How very attractive many of these offers have been only a few know. To this singleness of purpose much has been sacrificed, and by it much has been gained. With a determination quite inflexible Dr. Putnam has for years risen betimes, cleared his desk at the library before other men have begun the day, and rigidly conserved for the Library of Congress his strength, his time and his power of working. Only with him a rigorous system has never become a fetish. He remains master of it and of his time and strength, while many another man far stronger physically has succumbed to lesser burdens.

Devotion to a task does not always imply an ability both to see it large and to see it in perspective. Passionate devotion is quite compatible in many men with narrowness and lack of vision. Dr. Putnam's chief strength as an administrator is an uncanny detachment, an ability to seize rapidly—almost in a flash—the various implications in a proposal as they affect the whole service of the library and its larger policies. From the beginning of his librarianship at Washington he has had large plans for the library, plans which he has developed with the years. And the exigencies of the moment, the immediately attractive proposal, have always encountered a cool judgment which has dampened many an ardent enthusiast, but which has been the salvation in the long run of the progress of the library itself. I have myself been vexed indeed by this cool sanity, but I have always bowed to it—and I do still.

All large institutions tend to become machines—bureaucratic monsters, circumlocution offices. "Paper-work," as the army terms it, is in them exalted by the very force of circumstance. Governmental institutions, whose work is hemmed in and conditioned by statute, are ordinarily far worse in this regard than business or private institutions. Dr. Putnam has always managed to keep the Library of Congress alive. He has never allowed it to become a mere governmental machine. Herein lies much of the distinction of the library. Its volume of work is immense and, like all library work, most of it consists of rather small details. It must perforce be systematic to the last degree. But it has always under Dr. Putnam been humanized and vivified by real persons working on real problems. And he has

developed the habit of quick decision in such a way as to prevent endless discussion.

Some men have a power of bringing out the best work of other men—even though they do not arouse their ardent affection and devotion; indeed, quite often entirely apart from any semblance of personal attachment. This peculiar gift Dr. Putnam has exercised through three decades to hold his force to the highest standards of individual performance, again with detachment, but with no lack of true human interest on his part.

These brief comments are not impertinent or personal, though they discuss personality. The United States has been singularly fortunate in two great Librarians of Congress, Ainsworth Rand Spofford and Herbert Putnam. Younger librarians may well profit by a study of their methods and by an analysis of those qualities which have led to their success, qualities as diverse as were the circumstances and problems they were forced to meet. The former was a great collector of materials, carrying to almost impossible limits the personal service which can be rendered by one gifted man. Dr. Putnam has been both a gatherer of books and an organizer of service, great in both aspects of his work. He has obtained huge sums from Congress, to be expended with minute care and with profound judgment, but his best gift to the profession has been his ability to translate his vision of a national library into terms of actual performance.

Thirty years of his leadership find the Library of Congress holding a position at once commanding and promising. It is in a very real sense the pride of our calling, our common possession, our model, our benefactor. And it has come to hold this supreme confidence purely through the directing genius of its head, working through colleagues skillfully chosen and wisely led. Its promise of future leadership in service and in cooperative effort is perhaps the greatest involuntary tribute which can be paid to its chief. We *expect* the Library of Congress both to lead us and to serve our readers. This expectation rests on no right or privilege; it is just a fact. And that it is a fact is due to Herbert Putnam. Our recognition of the possibilities of the work of the national library for all American libraries is the surest proof of his attainment and his leadership. The nation and all libraries have profited from his work.

The Putnam Testimonial Volume

THE volume of *Essays Offered to Herbert Putnam by His Colleagues and Friends on His Thirtieth Anniversary as Librarian of Congress, 5 April, 1929,** to quote the title-page in full, originated by William Warner Bishop and Andrew Keogh, and edited and copyrighted by them, constitutes a unique contribution to library and personal literature. It bears the imprint of the Yale University Press, from which copies from the limited edition of six hundred can be procured, and contains contributions from no less than sixty-one writers in its 556 plus 16 pages. The portrait bust of Herbert Putnam made by his daughter, Brenda, who is taking first rank among American women sculptors, is reproduced in photography as the frontispiece of the volume, which contains also four other portraits of Herbert Putnam, at his graduation from Harvard College in 1883, and in his later years, and two maps exemplifying cartographic bibliography.

The following is the dedication:

"On behalf of the contributors to this anniversary volume, and of many others who were unable thus to give their tribute of regard and admiration, the editors present to you these essays on the completion of your thirty years as Librarian of Congress. They are both a review of your own professional career and (in effect) a summary of much of contemporary opinion on matters of librarianship, with some historical contributions by no means foreign to the craft. If the essays represent a wide variety of interests and of persons they but reflect the catholicity of your own spirit which has welcomed and fostered the most various forms of intellectual activity.

"It has been a pleasure to gather and publish these essays. We hope that you will accept them for just what they are—our spontaneous and sincere tribute to your leadership for a generation."

The initial contributions are by three members of the United States Senate who have had special relations with the Library or the Librarian, Senator Fess on "The Library of Congress" and Senators Burton and Gillett in personal appreciation of the Librarian. Thereafter come historical papers tracing Herbert Putnam's development as librarian and his work in and for the national library, Miss Countryman's on his service in Minneapolis, Mr. Belden's on his work in Boston, Mr. Bow-

*Essays Offered to Herbert Putnam. Copyright, 1929, by William Warner Bishop and Andrew Keogh.

ker's outlining the story of his appointment as Librarian of Congress. Mr. Dewey's on another episode in connection with the appointment, Mr. Bishop's remarkable review of "Thirty Years of the Library of Congress, 1899 to 1929," which the Library Journal plans to reprint in a later issue to reach many librarians who may not obtain sight of the volume.

Herbert Putnam. From the bust by Miss Brenda Putnam. Photograph by Laura Gilpin.

Then follow an extraordinary variety of contributions, arranged alphabetically by author,

from librarians and other friends, covering library, bibliographical, historical and other subjects beyond specific mention. Among them, however, may be specially noted papers relating to the national library itself, its departments and outside relations, as Assistant Librarian Ashley on "Three Eras in the Library of Congress," Prof. Edwin M. Borchard of Yale on "The Law Division of the Library of Congress," Carl Engel on "Concert A. D. 2025, in the Library of Congress," Worthington C. Ford on "A Division of Manuscripts," J. C. M. Hanson on "The Library of Congress and Its New Catalogue," Charles H. Hastings on "Reminiscences and Observations on the Card Distribution Work of the Library of Congress," Allen Johnson, editor of the *Dictionary of American Biography*, on "The Library of Congress: A Depository of American Biography," Charles Martel on "The Library of Congress Classification," Thorvald Solberg on "The United States and International Copyright."

The editors have been especially fortunate in securing contributions from distinguished authorities abroad who speak from personal contact with our national library and its librarian, ex-Ambassador Jusserand on "Franklin in France," Sir Frederic G. Kenyon, Director of the British Museum, on "Copyright Libraries," Dr. Hugo A. Krüss, General Director of the Prussian State Library, writing in German, on thirty years' history of that national library, M. Roland-Marcel, Administrator-General of the French national library, writing in French, on his visit to the Library of Congress, Dr. T. P. Sevensma, Librarian of the League of Nations, on that international library, and Monsignor Eugène Tisserant of the Vatican Library, giving also in French his notes and impressions as to libraries in America.

The volume is the result of a happy inspiration which came to the two editors during a conversation between them on the career of Herbert Putnam and the results of his thirty years' work in and for the Library of Congress which the present month completes. In discussing fitting recognition of his achievements, the suggestion for this volume occurred to Mr. Bishop, and he and Mr. Keogh undertook the direct editorship which has resulted so successfully, through a labor of love, which accounts for the fact that the name of Mr. Keogh, who has seen the volume through the press, is not directly among the contributors. Scarcely any one of those from whom contributions were suggested failed to respond with articles, though one cause or another prevented representation of some whose names will naturally occur to readers.

The Putnam Surprise Festival

Two days of surprises to Herbert Putnam marked the completion of his thirty years of service as Librarian of Congress which began with his appointment by President McKinley April 5, 1899. The twenty-fifth anniversary passed without special notice, but the remarkable triumphs of his administration since then —to give a partial list—The Coolidge Auditorium and music endowment by Mrs. Frederic Shurtleff Coolidge; the library trust fund originated by James B. Wilbur's investment of $100,000; the endowment of Chairs by W. E. Benjamin and the Carnegie Corporation, which will bring distinguished scholars like Professor Jameson to head the departments; the assurance of the great Shakespeare collection of Henry C. Folger as a nearby ally in the building to be contributed by him; the direct gifts for immediate use in history and bibliography by the younger Rockefeller; the money gift of Archer M. Huntington for Hispano-American collections; the recent superb gift by Edward S. Harkness of the brilliant collections of historical manuscripts as source material; the appropriation by Congress of $600,000 for the land needed for a library annex at the east; the phenomenal increase of the library collections in general, and the closer relations abroad—made it especially fitting that there should be a jubilation in honor of Herbert Putnam's work. Accordingly, last autumn Mr. Bishop and Mr. Keogh began to collect material for a testimonial volume, described elsewhere, and the chief surprise of all was that the sixty-one contributors and the few others having knowledge of the plan kept the matter absolutely secret, so that when at noon on Friday, April 5th, a company of two-score contributors to the volume and other representatives filed into the Librarian's room in a little procession headed by Senator Fess, chairman of the Senate Library Committee, and Mr. Bowker, as the senior of library folk present, the Librarian rose from his desk in utter surprise to receive the unexpected company. Not a scintilla of suspicion had come to him, except through one of the cablegrams and messages of appreciation which began to arrive during the day, which particular one referred in a mysterious manner to something about to happen, and left Dr. Putnam somewhat puzzled. Mr. Bishop, on behalf of the contributors, made a brief

speech of presentation, chiefly in the reading of the dedication of the volume (copied on another page), and Dr. Putnam, thinking on his feet, made a felicitous response, after which those present were entertained at luncheon by the chiefs of staff in the Round Table rooms above. The copy delivered to Dr. Putnam was in sumptuous binding of rich blue full morocco and copies in cloth binding were on hand for those of the contributors who were present.

The next event of the day was the presentation to the Music Division, through the Librarian, of a check for $1,000 for the enrichment of the Division through rare autographs or scores, the initial benefaction by the Friends of Music in the Library of Congress, organized within the past few months and already having three hundred members, with Speaker Longworth, himself a musical scholar and amateur violinist, as president, and Mrs. Walter B. Howe, the moving spirit of the organization, as vice-president. The presentation was made by Mrs. Howe and the two other ladies representing the association and recognized handsomely the development of this department under the headship of Carl Engel, its efficient chief.

During the afternoon a deputation from the general staff invaded the Librarian's room and Charles W. Coleman of the Reading Room made the presentation of another volume to the Librarian, also fittingly bound in blue full morocco, containing the signatures of one hundred and thirty-five members who had been for fifteen years or more on the immediate staff, out of the four hundred and fifty membership, exclusive of the additional hundred in the Copyright Office and the auxiliary force, which prefaced the reprint of extracts from Dr. Putnam's speeches and writings, including a sonnet of his earlier years.

Friday was thus a day of testimony to the Librarian as such, while Saturday was made the occasion for a more personal tribute on the part of those counted as members of the Round Table group, including chiefs of staff and many eminent persons in Washington or scholars and other visitors from outside, who, at the initiative of personal invitation from Dr. Putnam, had been privileged to gather about the Table at luncheon hour. Nearly three-score sat down together in the two rooms, among them many who had been more closely associated with the gatherings in years gone by or who came from a distance for this especial festivity, including the Bishop of Washington, Dr. Freeman, the veteran General Greeley, Dr. Wiley and other notables. Prof. Jameson was responsible for the suggestion and arrangement of the happy gathering, and Dr. Charles Moore, the head of the Fine Arts Commission, to whom Washington is indebted for his work through recent years in developing the public building plan which is making Washington the finest capital in the world, who was for some years the acting chief of the Manuscript Division, represented the membership as presiding officer at the little ceremony after the luncheon. Senator Fess paid a glowing tribute to the Librarian and his work; and Representative Luce, chairman of the House Committee on the Library, rose to real eloquence in describing the idealism which had brought Congress to the support of the Library throughout the administration of Dr. Putnam.

Justice Wendell P. Stafford, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, in a felicitous speech with touches of humor then presented to the Library, through the Librarian, the Marquis de Montcalm's "Relation de la Prise d'Oswego," 1756, a rare historical booklet not in its collections, of which only three copies are extant, purchased through subscriptions from the Round Table membership as a donation, recognizing that the Librarian would be better pleased by this gift to the Library than if the booklet were a personal gift to himself. Dr. Putnam, visibly moved by the happy emotion of the two days, tired though he was by the pressure of work precedent to his departure for Europe on the 10th, expressed his appreciation of all that had been done and said, giving credit throughout to the staff and to the supporters of the staff, Congress and the benefactors of the Library, for the achievements which were celebrated in these tributes to himself. It is hoped to print some record of the brief addresses, of which no stenographic report was made at the time, in a future issue of THE LIBRARY JOURNAL.

The attendance of librarians was interesting, including besides President Eastman and Secretary Milam of the American Library Association, librarians from the Atlantic to the Pacific Coast, Mr. Lane of Cambridge, who had been active in connection with the appointment of Mr. Putnam as Librarian; Mr. Belden of Boston, and Mr. Ferguson of Sacramento, recently returned from South Africa.

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Seekers who come shall her own presence find,
Mantled with light of man's all-conquering mind.

WILLIAM ADAMS SLADE.

What Can a Library Accomplish for a Company?

By M. E. Pellett

Librarian, The Port of New York Authority.

I HAVE been asked to tell you in ten minutes what a library can do for a company. It can't be done. By that I mean there is so much it can do that in a ten-minute treatment of the subject I can only hit the high spots.

What is a Business Library? I may well begin by telling you what it is not. It is not a warehouse. It is not a room distinguished chiefly by dusty shelves and dustier books. It is not an open-shelf display of volumes whose titles invite you to "browse." It is not a place where you come to lounge in an easy chair with a story that may lull you to sleep.

It is none of these things.

It is a workshop, a laboratory.

A general library may be measured by the number of volumes on its shelves. Not so the business library; for here the criterion is not size, but service.

A man just across the Hudson River from us, who holds such a unique position in the library world that he requires no introduction —the librarians here will tell you even before I mention his name that I have in mind John Cotton Dana—has defined so clearly and succinctly the special or business librarian's rôle that I can not do better than quote from him. After pointing out the enormous growth of printed information that is broadcast to the trade in books, pamphlets, class journals, and newspapers, he says this:

"The job of the special librarian is that of making this information function when and where it is needed, to make it instantly available. It is his duty to catch in nets of indices, lists, and abstracts the fish of useful knowledge that swim in the torrents of print streaming from presses all over the world. This knowledge he examines, arranges for his purposes, preserves as long as it has value, and discards when it is superseded by later knowledge."

A business library is a company's sixth sense. If the executive could cause to work twenty-four hours a day the five senses of all the members of his staff he would still be unable to bring into his business and make function even a moiety of the useful knowledge to be found in the "torrents of print streaming from the presses." That method belongs to the days of the quill pen and handmade pins. Today, just as manual labor is inadequate and has been supplemented by machines, so are the five senses inadequate to meet modern conditions and therefore must be supplemented. Hence the business library with its special technique and equipment.

The results that flow from a library are not achieved because the librarian is better able to read than is the executive. As a matter of fact, the librarian reads perhaps less than one-half of one per cent of the printed matter that comes into the library; and the material that comes into the library is but an infinitesimal part of what streams from the presses. What gets to the executive and the members of his staff is only that which may aid in solving the company's problems.

The business librarian is a specialist. Any literate person knows enough not to look for statistics or for chemical formulæ in a book or magazine of fiction. Any business man knows the leading trade journals in his line. But does he know—and if he did, would he have time to consult—the multitude of channels through which the librarian learns of material pertinent to his business that is hidden away in obscure books, in government documents (municipal, state, federal and foreign), in proceedings and transactions of associations and societies, in house organs of various kinds, in miscellaneous magazines that by no stretch of the term could be called "trade journals," in reports of public and quasi-public corporations, in pamphlets distributed privately, in special directories, in reference works of all kinds, in broadsides, sometimes in the most insignificant-looking pieces of printed matter and even material not yet published? To know these sources requires special training. To coordinate the information they contain and make it available when wanted requires special training.

There is also another respect in which the business librarian is a specialist. This is knowing the particular line in which the company is engaged. A manufacturing chemist would not employ in his business an aeronautical engineer; similarly he should not have as librarian one whose training was had in a library of aeronautics. Since the rise of the special library, in the last two decades, libra-

Paper read at Special Conference on Library and Research, 33rd Annual Meeting of the National Association of Manufacturers, held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York City, October 23, 1928.

rians have come to specialize just as doctors, engineers and other professional men and women have specialized. In an age of specialization the librarian is not, could not be, an exception.

In still another way is the business librarian a specialist. Not only must he know the line in which his company is engaged, but he must know, with a precision second only to that of the head of the concern, the informational needs of the company. That he may know this, the company must furnish him with facilities for keeping abreast of its activities. There are various means of accomplishing this: It is a problem of organization for each company to work out for itself. In my own case my position requires me to attend all board meetings and staff conferences, and I have supervision of all the records and files of the organization. These functions place within my control all the sources of information on the inside, and from them I am able to determine what to look for on the outside. Such coordination is essential to the highest library efficiency.

Let us assume that you take your library seriously and not as a sort of glorified filing department. You accept it as a service unit and its head—the librarian—as an executive assistant. You place upon this unit the responsibility, not of filing what happens to drift in, but of reaching out—to the four corners of the earth, if necessary—and bringing in the information that your business requires and of making it function. You give library needs a place in your budget the same as you do other service units, so that there may be an adequate staff and funds for the purchase of books, etc.

Let us assume those factors and ask, "What can your library accomplish for your company?" It can—to enumerate some of the more important of its possibilities—

(1) Save the time of high-salaried executives;

(2) Keep your technical staff informed of developments in the fields pertaining to their work;

(3) Obviate foolish and perhaps costly errors through lack of the latest information on events affecting your business;

(4) Aid in the training of your employees, thereby increasing their usefulness;

(5) Exercise a salutary influence toward creating within your organization that conscious unity of interest and purpose which is so essential to efficiency where the cooperation of several departments is involved;

(6) Add to the prestige of your company and its product through your librarian's contacts, which are necessarily made among those whose function it is to guide the reading, and therefore to some extent the thought, of those whom they serve.

As an illustration of the sort of contacts your librarian can make, we have this Special Conference on Library and Research; you have only to consult the roster in order to ascertain who we are and whether the organizations we represent are worth cultivating.

The Special Libraries Association—A Historical Sketch

By Herbert O. Brigham

State Librarian of Rhode Island

The Special Libraries Association had its inception at Bretton Woods, N. H., in July, 1909, when a dozen librarians gathered in a small room to discuss the need of helping special libraries in the financial, commercial, scientific and industrial fields. Representatives from legislative reference bureaus, municipal reference bureaus, civic associations, economic departments of colleges, and the business and technical librarians of the leading public libraries also shared in the initial enterprise.

Previously, at the fourth general session of the A. L. A., Mr. John Cotton Dana of Newark reported that a new association was in process of formation, and stated that circulars had been sent to commercial and welfare libraries and legislative reference bureaus and, in addition, economic and technical departments of public and university libraries. Mr. Dana added, "Libraries of this kind, although they have increased with great rapidity within the last four or five years, have not received much attention from our association (A. L. A.), and have not become interested in it." He stated that forty-five replies had been received, all but one favoring organized effort at cooperation.

At this preliminary gathering for organization Mr. Dana outlined the plan for the association, a constitution was offered and officers elected as follows: President, John Cotton Dana; Vice-President, Robert H. Whitten of the Public Service Commission, New York City; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Anna Sears of the Merchants Association, and two executive

committee members, George W. Lee of Stone and Webster, and Herbert O. Brigham, State Librarian of Rhode Island.

The writer does not recall the names of the other persons who were present at this formative meeting, but later D. N. Handy, Guy E. Marion, John A. Lapp, Miss Beatrice Carr, and Miss Sarah Ball, to mention a few names, took an active part in the councils of the association.

A roster of the libraries interested in the new movement was printed in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for September, 1909. In addition to the group of public libraries which were supporting the movement, the dominant groups in the association were the state and municipal reference departments. The remaining libraries were scattered among various groups—five maintained by commercial associations, three in the insurance field, two sociological, two public utility, one financial and one industrial library. There were also listed one library school and two library periodicals. This list is in striking contrast to the thousand libraries covering all lines of business activity which are now identified with the association.

In November the LIBRARY JOURNAL alluded to the formation of the association, and showed the field of untouched work available for the new organization. Feasible undertakings were suggested, some of which afterward became a prominent part of the association's work.

The association held its first "annual meeting" in New York on November 5, 1909, with an attendance of forty. The opening remarks of President J. C. Dana were a true prophecy of later developments. Mr. Dana stated: "The man of affairs has just begun to realize how important and helpful to him may be the material found in books, proceedings and periodicals, and how readily it may be brought to his hand. The library idea has always been more or less academic, monastic, classic. The impression has prevailed that the library appeals first of all to the reader of polite literature, to the student, the philosopher, the man of letters. This modern rapid development of special libraries managed by experts who endeavor from day to day to gather together the latest things on the topic to which his library is devoted, to present to the firm and employees, is simply an outward manifestation of the fact that the man of affairs has come to realize that printed things form the most useful and most important tools of his business, no matter what that business may be. We may look to see very wide and rapid development of libraries of all kinds in the next few years." Mr. Dana, the originator of the business branch of the Newark Public Library, has always had a keen insight into the need for book-knowledge in the business world, whatever the business may be.

This first meeting had an interesting significance. Mr. Lee, in his address, stated, "The business world, after the manner of the scientific world, is ready for a clearing-house of information." The writer of this article discussed "Cooperation Between Special Libraries," and Miss Carr, in her address on the financial library, stated, "Concrete facts are more likely to be helpful than vague generalizations." The phrases which are now so familiar in special library terminology were beginning to take form.

In January, 1910, the association established its monthly journal which, with many vicissitudes, has been continued for a period of nearly twenty years. The magazine was established as a means of furthering effective cooperation, as a medium of intercommunication and as a clearing-house of notes and news of special interest to the members of the association. In the initial number the editor suggested: "Put your ideas and work at the disposal of others and you will help build up a clearing-house of ideas and information that will repay you seven-fold."

Committees were formed on legislative and municipal reference, public utilities, technology and insurance, as well as other committees on agriculture, commercial associations, sociological libraries, membership and publicity. The roster of these committees shows the names of Mr. McFarlane, the veteran director of the Philadelphia Museum; Mr. De Berard of the Merchants Association of New York, Mr. Flack of the Baltimore Legislative Reference Department, Mrs. Howze of the Commonwealth Edison Company, Chicago; Mr. Andrews of the John Crerar Library, J. L. Wheeler, then of the Public Library, District of Columbia; Mr. Hoffman of the Prudential Life Insurance Company, and many others.

I have dwelt with some detail upon the early beginning of the association because it clearly shows the objective which these enthusiastic people were trying to reach. During the year 1910 Guy E. Marion and John A. Lapp became secretary and managing editor respectively of *Special Libraries*, and for many years these two men carried the burden of the association. Reference lists, which have always been an important part of the association's work, were established as departments of the magazine: Mr. Whitten in charge of public utilities; Mr. Handy, insurance; Mr. Wheeler, technology, and Mr. Lapp, public affairs.

In March, 1910, the Boston branch was organized, and an article on editorial libraries, by Mr. Foster of the *Youth's Companion*, in *Special Libraries* for April, 1910, was a precursor of the newspaper group which was des-

tined to become an important part of the association. A directory of special libraries was also printed in the same issue, the forerunner of many similar lists produced by the association. This directory excluded libraries relating to law, history, theology and medicine. The total number of libraries listed was approximately one hundred, and of the total number twenty were state libraries performing legislative reference functions.

The year had been one of steady progress, and there was an enthusiastic meeting at Mackinac, Mich. The editorial column of the magazine, following the conference, emphasizes that the association's work had been devoted to developing the field of special libraries, discovering the various kinds of libraries and their activities and in formulating by experiment sound plans of cooperation. The editor stated: "In cooperation the policy will be followed of doing only those things which are not already being done by other agencies. The various committees representing the different kinds of libraries will plan cooperative schemes, and so far as possible *Special Libraries* will be used in carrying them out until some other publication shall see fit to take them over. The aim is to do nothing which shall duplicate other publications. Duplication cannot, of course, be entirely prevented, but it can be reduced to the minimum.

"Special library cooperation differs from that of the general libraries because it deals more vitally with material than with method. The general library has already developed its leading reference agencies; the special libraries have theirs largely to develop. It is the question which cannot be answered by the general library which finally finds its way up to test the resources of the special library. Each class of special libraries will need special aids." Here is laid down for the first time the distinction between the special library and the general library, a disputable question for many years.

In the fall of 1910 a project for the preparation of reference lists in cooperation with the Library of Congress was undertaken, and for several years the magazine contained bibliographies from this valuable source, also notes on bibliographies issued in manuscript form and distributed to various libraries.

In this hasty sketch it is impossible to give more than a cursory glance at the early developments in the special library field. Much of the work of the association was to a large extent experimental. New fields of activity were tried out, the objective being to test the conditions in order to establish sound bases for cooperation.

"The Earning Power of Special Libraries," presented by Mr. Handy in 1911, brought forth a new phase of library discussion. Mr. Handy noted that the value of the trained special librarian appears in his expeditious, judicious and adequate supply of needed information at the crucial moment. A year later Mr. Handy was discussing the library as a business asset, again using the vernacular of industry, evaluating the library as a component part of the business world, and as an asset to business enterprise.

The men and women who were forming this new association were working in a new field where library technique was far less important than accuracy, speed and adequacy of response. Business demanded and expected results, and the librarians had to adapt themselves to the new mode.

Lists of special libraries issued in 1912 show notable strides. Libraries in the manufacturing field, in banks and financial houses and among the public utilities were being developed and achieving results. The demand for unified effort brought forth the Boston Cooperative Information Bureau, the first of many undertakings associated with the special library field which attempted to answer questions from a common source.

The widespread growth of the special library movement developed the demand for district meetings, and in 1913 district meetings were held in Boston, Chicago and New York. These represented the small beginnings of the local chapters or associations which are now a vital part of the national organization. By 1915 the association had made rapid growth and the list of members, printed prior to the sixth annual meeting, showed the names of 370 libraries on the roster. Men of prominence in the business world were preparing addresses for presentation at the conference. A notable address in this period was made by Walter S. Gifford, Chief Statistician, now President of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company, on the subject "Suggestions for Making a Business Library Practical."

In defining its nomenclature, the special library was severely criticized for its attempt to differentiate itself from the public libraries and other forms of library activity. Dr. C. C. Williamson, at that time connected with the New York Public Library, prepared one of the best definitions, which is as follows: "A special library is an efficient, up-to-date, reasonable, complete collection of the literature on a particular subject, including not only books, but clippings, pamphlets, articles, reports, etc., all so completely indexed and classified that the latest and best data are available without the difficulties and delays that are more or less inevitable in a large general library."

M. S. Dudgeon considered the special library

"a utilitarian establishment calculated to serve the worker too busy to take time for scholarly investigation. The special librarian becomes, in fact, a bureau of investigation. In a special library the material of most vital importance is not in books, often it is not even in print. The special library is a clearing-house of live ideas, of live problems." The statements of these men and many others, compiled by Ethel M. Johnson and printed in *Special Libraries*, December, 1915, made it evident that the most distinctive feature of the special library is not so much its subject matter as its service. Before everything else, it is an information bureau.

The personnel of the special library profession was changing. Not only men and women with library training were entering the field, but persons were attracted to special library work from the engineering profession, from the managing editor's desk, and from kindred occupations where the technique of the profession was more important than the technique of the library. During this period many of the titles of the head librarian were changed to "director of research," "director of information," and similar titles. While many of the younger librarians in the association and especially those who had not received adequate library training, were studying problems of library technique, many of the members of the association were discussing questions of research, information sources and fact-gathering devices. Again the terminology was changing and the special librarian was using the terms of the business world, putting in the background the well-worn library phrases to which he had been accustomed.

A writer in the LIBRARY JOURNAL has stated that special librarians are of two classes, "specialists who are incidentally librarians and librarians who are incidentally specialists." This fact has probably been the cause of much friction within and without the Special Libraries Association and has been often misunderstood by many people.

But the association, in spite of minor troubles of this type, continued to grow and prosper. Many of its early undertakings for one cause or another were transplanted into other channels. References on technology stimulated the development of the *Industrial Arts Index*, by the H. W. Wilson Company; *Public Affairs Notes* blossomed into the *Public Affairs Information Service*, at first under the ægis of the H. W. Wilson Company and later an independent and prosperous separate organization.

Special Libraries, under various editors, continued to make its monthly appearance, published many times under difficult circumstances and occasionally for convenience put into double numbers, but eventually finding its way to the desk of the subscriber, the news organ of the association. It would be unfair to pick out particular persons to mention in connection with the administration of the association. The leadership passed from Mr. Lapp and Mr. Marion to Dr. C. C. Williamson and Ralph L. Power. During the war period Guy E. Marion became president and J. H. Freidel editor of the magazine. Then came the administration of Dorsey W. Hyde, Jr., followed by that of Miss Rebecca B. Rankin. The magazine in the interval has passed through the editorship of Miss Hasse, Miss Tafel and Miss Gibbs.

In recent years the noteworthy events in this association have been the strong development of the local associations, especially that of New York with over three hundred members, and the strengthening of the groups, six in number, many of them divided into sub-groups and subcommittees covering the wide range of their interests. It is obvious that as time passes the association will continue to stress the research and information part of its work, and put more and more into the background factors of library technique. This statement doubtless will be criticized by many people, for the essential parts of library technique will always have a strong appeal for many of the members of the association.

Special libraries have found their place in the business world, and in time of financial stress or stringency it is doubtful that many of these libraries would lose their identity and be discontinued. Industrial leaders have linked these libraries too closely to their research departments to hazard such procedure, and as time passes, the research department, laboratory, information bureau and the library will become more and more interrelated.

More than 258,000 *books were placed in the hands of sailors last year through the American Merchant Library Association, the association reports. A total of* 31,000 *volumes were given to the association last year by persons interested in providing wholesome literature for seamen.*

Engineering Library of the General Staff, American Telephone and Telegraph Company

By Ethel Rispin, *Librarian*

THE Engineering Library of the American Telephone and Telegraph Co., which had its beginning in the early days of the business, experienced a considerable growth about fifteen years ago, partly due to the transfer to it of collections from other libraries and partly to other factors. As a result of this growth it became necessary to organize it on a more definite basis. The periodical subscription list was increased, and more systematic additions made to the collection of books. Responsibility for the maintenance of this library now rests with the Department of Development and Research of this company.

Serving chiefly a departmental clientèle of staff engineers, the library has grown steadily until it now includes over 7000 books, more than that number of pamphlets and reports (largely government material), subscriptions to about 200 periodicals, and between 2500 and 3000 lantern slides.

The General Reading Room of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

There are several such special libraries at the Headquarters Building (including the General, Legal and Information Department Libraries, in addition to the Engineering Library), all of which cooperate very closely. The Technical Library of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, Inc., is an indispensable ally, as its collection comprehends more material of value and interest to the engineers of the general staff than do the others.

Since the Engineering Library is but one of several specialized libraries in the Company, every effort is made to eliminate, so far as is practicable, duplication in the material added. Frequently, of course, a textbook may be of equal value to two or more of the collections, in which case each acquires it. Usually, however, the more specialized texts are added to the library which has the greater need for that type of material for its clientele to make use of.

The books include texts on engineering in all its phases, general science, physics, mathematics, electricity, telephony and telegraphy, mainly, and in addition handbooks, technical dictionaries, reference works and smaller groups on subjects allied to the main collection. This collection is augmented constantly by books recommended by various officials and engineers as being either desirable departmental reference material, or needed for special work in some group or division. Further, publishers' booklists and advance notices are scanned by the librarian to determine the new books, general in character, which it is desirable to acquire.

The magazines include most of the important American and English technical publications relating to communication and allied industries, together with many French and German periodicals. These periodicals are received at frequencies varying from daily to annually, the total number of separate issues being approximately 4500. Since several copies of many of the periodicals are required, the number of copies received during the year is over 8500. The number of transactions involved in routing them individually (the procedure found most practical for keeping the material instantly available), following them up when retained too long, and referring them to engineers not regularly on the routing lists, amounts to about 35,000, or more than 20 transactions an hour. To provide adequate records of the receipt, routings, referred issues, and subscription information of these periodicals, and to facilitate the clerical work involved, a special form was devised for use with a ten-tray visible index equipment. The forms used vary in color, each color denoting the frequency

of the issue of the periodical for which it is used.

Copies of about seventy of the more important of these publications are retained for ready reference on a periodical rack in the library. Other copies, as they are released from routings, are used to fill requests for special issues to persons not requiring for their work that they receive each issue regularly.

About thirty-five of the periodicals are bound yearly and added to the permanent book collection for general reference work. Another forty of them are kept for an indefinite period in cabinets in the magazine room. These are publications which have more than a temporary value, but have not proved essential as a permanent addition. Copies of the remainder of the 200 magazines are held so that a complete six months' file is always available of each, all copies prior to that period being discarded at regular intervals.

To make the periodicals of greater service and more readily available for reference work, a card catalog is maintained, listing all important articles appearing in the technical periodicals since 1918. The bulletin, *Index to Technical Literature*, prepared weekly by the technical library of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, Inc., is used as the source of information for the material included in this index. The listings are made under author and subject, each card giving in addition the title of the article, its source reference and a brief abstract. This catalog was found necessary since none of the special index services (such as *Science Abstracts, Engineering Index*, or *Industrial Arts Index*, all of which are used as supplementary aids to this index) exhausted the references available referring to the specialized communication field and its related interests.

Since it is important that the members of the department be informed of new material available through the library, a monthly bulletin is issued the first of each month, listing the more important items received during the preceding month. A copy of this bulletin is sent to each group, division and section head, and to any others who indicate their interest in receiving a personal copy. The library also distributes, to members of the staff, the weekly bulletin referred to above, compiled by the Technical Library of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, Inc. This bulletin presents a brief summary, tabulated by subjects, of the outstanding articles published in magazines received in the period elapsing between issues.

The library includes in its collection a set of United States patents relating to the communication art from 1859 to date, which are bound in numerical, hence chronological, order. In order to conserve time and effort in identifying patents issued to an individual when the numbers and dates are not known, the library compiled and maintains currently an alphabetical patent index, a separate name card being made for each patentee to whom such a patent has been issued. These cards give, in addition to the patentee's name, the title of the patent, its number and date of issue.

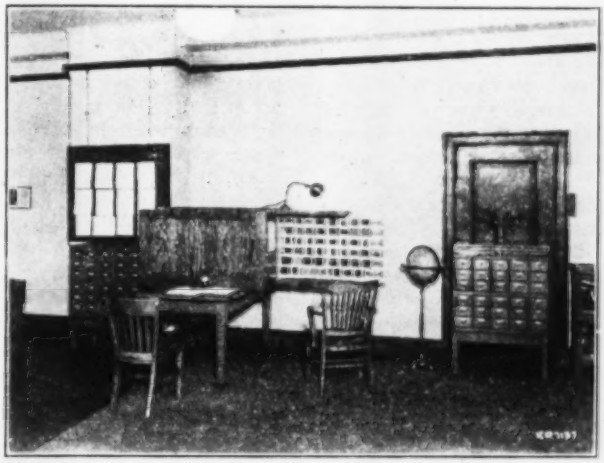
The library functions also as custodian of the department lantern slides which are used for illustrating lectures (either those given to societies or outside organizations, or to student groups of the company) and frequently as illustrations for the engineers' published papers. All lantern slides are classified, according to a departmental system, and filed in specially constructed cabinets, each rack of which displays sixty slides at a time. The capacity of each cabinet is 1200. A card index to these slides is maintained, giving the classification number (used in filing the slide and serving as its call number), title, and, whenever available, the name of the person for whom the slide was made, the purpose for which he had it made, and the date ordered. The cabinets are so placed that, when opened, the blank, buff-colored, library wall, lighted by an overhead lamp, serves as a background for the slides.

Translations of technical articles in foreign publications, or from original manuscripts, are frequently needed by the engineers. Such requests are submitted to the library on translation request forms. After necessary approvals are secured, the work is assigned to one of a group of technically trained men, outside the company, who are available for such work. The translator's completed work is then typed and set up with a photostat of the original article, so that a page of the latter corresponds exactly with the page of text it faces. One copy of the translation (set up with a positive photostat) is sent to the engineer requesting it, to be retained in his personal files. The second one, with the negative photostat (retained in case it is necessary at any time to set up additional copies of the translation), is retained for library circulation.

An occasional request for information about technical meetings in the metropolitan district, led to the inauguration of a bulletin service listing such information. The *List of Technical Meetings*, for any given month, was circulated to those interested on the first of the month. The service developed to such an extent, however, as to make it seem advisable to compile and issue the bulletin twice a month, on the first and the fifteenth. In its present form the bulletin includes items about the annual and national meetings of the larger technical

organizations, wherever held, in addition to those about local meetings.

Supplementing the resources of the Engineering Library, cooperation is maintained with other libraries of the city (public, college and special business libraries) for the interchange of certain types of material to assist in reference work. In this connection acknowledgment is made of indebtedness to Columbia University, upon whose loan facilities frequent calls are made, with gratifying results. The use of these facilities serves a double purpose. It eliminates the necessity of acquiring material foreign to the communication field, and for which there may be only very occasional calls. Moreover, it facilitates getting desired information of this character by eliminating the delay incident to purchasing such material.



A cabinet of classified lantern slides. Each rack displays sixty slides at one time.

In addition to the routine duties essential to the operation of any library, such as cataloging, filing, routing material, reading shelves and so on, the library is constantly and instantly available, on call, for any reference work required by the engineers. This may take one of several forms, the more outstanding ones in this library including (1) the compilation of bibliographies on any selected subject, either in flat list form, if only required to date, or in card form, if it is to be maintained as an active source of current information; (2) the writing of abstracts or summaries of articles of interest (including those of foreign articles) where it is not essential that the man have the full text available in his personal files; (3) general reference, such as the source and meaning of special words or terms, translation of foreign phrases, looking up magazine or book references, biographical sketches of engineers and similar "odd jobs"; and (4) procuring photostats or typed copies of any article required for an engineer's files, when it is difficult to procure an extra copy for clipping, either because of the delay involved in securing it or because it is borrowed material or out of print.

In addition to performing such services, the library is alert constantly for new or special ways to serve the technical staff, or save their time, and welcomes any suggestions along these lines. As a matter of fact many of the minor, though perhaps not necessarily unimportant, duties of the library staff have evolved from some such suggestions on the part of an engineer or staff member.

W. T. Grant Company Library—The Drama of Retailing

By Grace D. Aikenhead, *Librarian, W. T. Grant Company*

Scene—The Library.

Time—The Present.

Character—Any Man in the W. T. Grant Company.

"I'm taking over some work new to me. I'm going to work out a stock control system for ready-to-wear. Have you anything that will help me?"

"I've just been made buyer for the china department. Don't know much about it. Make me out a list of the things I should read."

"I'm going out into the stores and it is all new to me. I've got an awful lot to learn. What can you suggest to help me?"

"They've just transferred me to the real estate department. Got any books that will help me?"

These are some of the questions that come constantly to our library. The man finds himself in a new set of conditions, and he makes an earnest request for help to meet these conditions. Our business is to give him this "help"

so that he can build up the proper background in the shortest possible time.

You will appreciate this situation better if you know something about the W. T. Grant Company. We are a retail chain store organization with 230 stores in many of the larger cities scattered from Maine to Texas. We sell merchandise priced only up to a dollar. We are expanding very rapidly, having opened 68 new stores last year. At the executive office in New York City are many specialists, accountants, real estate experts, buyers, research workers, industrial engineers and stylists.

Our library came into existence to help the men in our stores all over the country to keep in touch with important happenings in the retail world. For the men who are new to retailing we make available the best material written on every phase of retailing. This means that our collection includes books, pamphlets, trade magazines, trade newspapers, government reports and association reports. We differ from other libraries in that we cover retailing and merchandising and all subjects allied to them.

We also operate our library very differently from the usual library. In the first place, most of our readers are in various cities throughout the country, and our requests for information come in by mail. We choose the material which answers the question and send it to the man in whatever city he may be. Then a letter follows with a description of the material.

Whenever possible, we are given an opportunity to meet the new man joining the organization. This contact enables us to tell him about the material we have and how we conduct the library. It also gives us an opportunity to size up the man and this information, together with his education and previous experience, which we receive from the records in the personnel division, helps us to choose material for him. All these factors, personality, education—whether high school, college, or business school—past experience, are taken into consideration, and we send him the material which in our judgment is best suited to his particular needs.

It is difficult to keep men interested, but we try in our first interview to build up two very definite ideas about retailing. In the first place retailing is now a science. The "hit-or-miss" methods of ten years ago have had to give way to the modern scientific approach. This scientific retailing requires a definite background about all phases of retailing. That is where the library comes in. We can help them build this background by furnishing material for investigating the ideas in the best literature on their subjects. In other words, we help them take advantage of the experiences and findings of experts rather than use double the time in working out these experiences for themselves. In the second place, we stress the professional view of retailing. A professional man, a doctor, dentist, lawyer, must constantly give a certain amount of time to investigating the new developments in his profession. The practices of retailing recently have changed more than the practices of medicine and law. It is, therefore, absolutely essential for the professional retailer to keep in touch with new developments. In presenting this idea, we also urge our readers to have a time budget for business reading; that is, to set a definite hour and a definite amount of time each week to devote to this keeping-in-touch with their profession.

One of the most valuable means which we have found to help us keep in touch with these hundreds of readers has been a simple card, sent with the book which we call a "Comment Card." It has a space for the reader to jot down the ideas he has found most helpful in the particular material. These "Comment Cards" bring us an amazing number of the reactions of our readers.

Question: What ideas in this book were most helpful to you?

Comment:

Greene—*Principles and Methods of Retailing*

Being new in the game, the chapters that hit the bull's-eye were the first two on Merchandising, Part II, on "The Budget," "Buying," "Marking" and "Receiving," also on "Publicity"; Part III on "Window Display" and "Preparation of Copy."

Hahn—*Merchants' Manual*

Section of merchandising most valuable to me. Chapter 27 on "Markup, Profits and Turnover" very instructive to beginning floorman. Gives idea of how to balance stocks so as to get as nearly perfect balance in markups, profits and turnover. Low and steady stocks result in high markup and turnover with high profits.

Hayward—*Retail Handbook*

The most helpful book I have ever read, the chapters on "Accounting" being of especial value to me. The treatment of "Sales Promotion" in this book was the clearest, best and most instructive that I have ever studied, and was of great interest to me.

Ivey—*Salesmanship Applied*

Know your merchandise and tell the truth about it.

Know yourself. Whatever you dislike in another person, take care to correct in yourself.

Solid foundation required for tall superstructure.

Leigh—*Elements of Retailing*

Knowing how to order only enough for the needs and demands of the people, and not ordering in excess of this amount, thereby being able to keep pace with the styles and sell goods more rapidly, making greater turnover. Also how to plan purchases and sales. What turnover is and how to increase it.

Copeland—*Principles of Merchandising*

Two chapters in this book were exceptionally interesting and helpful to me. The one on advertising and the other on turnover, and I found the author had analyzed the retail merchandise field very carefully, and for that reason I found the book very instructive.

Just imagine for a minute the problems you would encounter if all your readers were in various cities. We have tried to overcome this by advertising cards, special lists, which go out from time to time, special book bulletins and by broadcasts. Each week we send out to every man a reprint of some good article on retailing, or style, or color, or a pamphlet or an address. Recently one of our managers told us these reprints were an education in themselves with nothing else from the library. In the last few months we have sent out the following:

Grant, W. T.

An Analysis of Independent and Chain Store Merchandising. (An address delivered before The Merchandise Managers' Group, National Retail Dry Goods Association, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York City, July 13, 1928).

Nystrom, Paul H.

Some Important Factors in the Economics of Consumption as Related to the Retail Business. (Address delivered at N. R. D. G. A. 18th Annual Convention, Friday, Feb. 8, 1929).

Buyer's Job. A series of articles in *N. R. D. G. A. Bulletin.*

Parsons, Floyd W.

Mass Everything. *Advertising and Selling* for April 18, 1928.

Business Master of Its Fate. *Industrial Digest* for June, 1927.

Clark, Franklin S.

"Styling," the Manufacturer Gets What Grant Wants. *Chain Store Review* for November, 1928.

Business Forecasts for 1929. *N. R. D. G. A. Bulletin* for January, 1929.

Lebhar, Godfrey M.

The Chain Store and Society. (An address delivered before the National Chain Store Association at Hotel Peabody, Memphis, Tenn., Oct. 11, 1928).

Bruce, George

The Chain Store—a Shield Against Merchandising Extravagance. *Printers' Ink Monthly* for September, 1927.

Crane, Dr. Frank

Too Soon. *Hardware Dealers' Magazine.*

In working along these lines with a large number of men, gradually a certain plan for presenting this retail information evolved. About two years ago we planned with our personnel director the "W. T. Grant Company Course on Marketing." This consists of three terms of reading with six or eight books in each term's work. Each book has been analyzed and questions prepared on it to bring out the high spots in the material. Wherever possible, we have brought out in these questions the ideas in the material and made a direct application to a Grant Company problem. This "Course" is being taken by a large group of men all over the country, and we feel that it helps give our men a broad background about general retailing and aids them in becoming efficient chain store retailers.

Like all other libraries, we are called upon to furnish specific fact information. We are the fact scouts. An executive wishes to know:

Monthly volume of business done in camera films.

How to take the oil out of rayon.

Standard measurements of athletic shirts.

New sources of manufacturers.

Department store customers; percentage of men and women.

Forecast of fabric glove colors for fall, 1929.

Stock control for manufacturers.

Laboratory reports on paints and floor finish.

This man has neither the time nor the knowledge to get this information in the quickest, most direct way. The library does this, for it keeps in touch with sources of information, organizations, specialists and research workers, so we can answer these questions. We are the link between outside information and the members of our company. We are responsible for the memberships in organizations and the services, whether economic or style.

Special assistance has sprung up in our library for our various departments, such as building codes of the cities where we have stores for the Construction Department, a file

of chain store locations for the Real Estate Department, a complete collection of directories for our buyers, fashion services and information for our stylists. When a new need arises we make a survey of the subject, bring in obtainable material, and pass the best of it on to the individual who is working on that subject. Our library is small as libraries go, but we have tried to choose our material with great care and have represented the best authorities on all phases of retailing. We are not interested in books as books, but in the ideas in them; first, those ideas that can be handed on to the individual to help him become more efficient, and, second, those that will enable our company to keep in the vanguard in the retail profession.

In the subway recently we saw a clever advertising slogan: "Success depends on care." We have appropriated it for the fascinating drama of retailing, which is being enacted constantly in our library. Success made easy and simple through care, planning, preparation and the use of exact retail facts. *Curtain.*

Business Men and Print

By Marian C. Manley

Librarian, Business Branch, Newark Public Library, New Jersey

WHATEVER his wishes, the business man of today is inundated by a flood of print. Circulars of every description pass over his desk. Trade papers come into being over night. Pamphlets, books, and association proceedings relating to his particular activity are to be found. In this mass is worthwhile, and also worthless material, but how to separate it into these groups as related to his needs is the problem that confronts him. Its solution depends on the size of his organization and his own degree of farsightedness. The solution found most satisfactory to many large concerns is the employment of a librarian.

But does the business man always need a librarian? There again, "it depends." In Newark, for example, what is the situation? Newark is a city of 473,000, with large financial and manufacturing interests. It is a short distance from New York. It has a city librarian that has anticipated the needs of the community in many instances. His solution of the problem pertinent to this paper, that is, how best to make the print most useful to them quickly accessible to Newark business men, is represented by the Business Branch of the Newark Public Library.

"Selected material quickly accessible" perhaps sums up the Business Branch. Every effort is made to have the best material in its carefully limited field arranged so that those wishing certain information may have immediate access to it. This principle has been adhered to in the location of the building, the physical arrangement of the space, the selection of the material housed there, and in the service provided by the personnel.

To enlarge a little on the brief definition of what is meant by the Business Branch of the Newark Public Library: It is in fact a three story brick building about 29 ft. x 80 ft. at 34 Commerce Street, which means it is located in the heart of the coming Newark's active business district. Two floors of the building are for use by the public. The first floor has mainly reference collections. The entrance to this work room for Newark business men is on the street level and is without barriers of any kind. There are reference assistants near the door ready to give help, but also all collections may be used without any intervention from an assistant, and fully 60 per cent of those using the Branch avail themselves of this freedom.

In planning the distribution of material on two floors, such groups as are more apt to be used hurriedly or independently were assigned to the first floor, and other collections which would of necessity require some time for adequate use were placed on the second floor. The same freedom of access to all collections is observed on both floors open to the public.

And what are the collections which many years of experience have proved are of greatest use to all types of business men? To the average librarian or reader who has long venerated books per se, the volumes gathered here, and the respective use of the different groups has many surprises. Why, for example, should the entire west wall of one floor be lined with directories under the various groupings, "Trade," "City" and "Foreign," and what brings so many people to use these books? It is possible to understand why business men would be interested in books on accounting, and organization and advertising, but what can they want of so many directories? And the answer is "Markets."

Whatever his special activity, the individual must deal with two great groups—"buyers"

and "sellers." Whether he deals in commodities or service, he must know how to reach the market for his goods and where best to buy to fill his needs. And in directories of all kinds skilfully used he finds a valuable tool.

Another constant problem for individuals or corporations is the profitable use of surplus funds. Unlimited opportunities for study and consideration of this problem are afforded residents of Newark, New York, and surrounding communities through the investment material gathered at the Business Branch. And for the study of all aspects of business problems a selective, up-to-date collection of books, magazines, pamphlets and clippings, indexed in many ways is immediately at hand.

To go back to the individual business man and the mass of print. Here in Newark the problem of selecting the grain from the chaff, he has delegated to his Business Branch Library. In it he has a collection of material to fill his needs. How does he use it? And this again depends on the man himself. He may get help on his problems through a personal visit or telephone call, or by sending a substitute. When as in the case with several concerns in Newark, that substitute is herself a trained librarian, he has selected an excellent way to serve his needs.

The staff of the Business Branch is trained to gather and make accessible material that will be of business use to its many thousand employers, the tax payers of Newark. The personal service given each individual is dependent upon the claims of the many. Certain large corporations established in Newark such as, for example, the Public Service Corporation of New Jersey, have their own well developed libraries with librarians who use the resources of the company library and the Public Library and its Business Branch with the object of selecting material of direct bearing on their own problems. Executives of other corporations may delegate to another official the study of some business problem, or may themselves take time for prolonged consideration of its ramifications, and the Business Branch affords material for this study and assistance in its selection.

The increasing use of the Branch by private individuals and by other libraries, and the countless letters asking for assistance in business problems received there, show that it fills a very definite need. And important factors in its growing usefulness to the field from which it draws its clientèle, Newark, New York and surrounding communities, are its size, convenience of access, its carefully considered limitations and its freedom from barriers, all tending to increase the ease with which it may be used. The Business Branch in Newark is not a storehouse of past history; neither does it include to any great extent the theories of economics nor sociology, nor the technical processes of manufacturing. It is intended to make quickly available in its own collections and through cooperation with other organizations, the latest, best, and most comprehensive treatments of all phases of business management, including the study of markets. The unfailing liberality in its support by the city and the comments and cooperation of its patrons are perhaps the most satisfactory means by which its success in attaining its objective can be measured.

Our National Library

Fair set, august, with lantern'd, golden dome
  Far heralding the deathless fame of those
Whose genius rules the world; a polychrome
  Of painted walls, depicting joys and woes
Recorded in old legend, history, song;
  Mosaics; symbol-covered three fold door;
Carved marbles; rich-toned glass—all these belong
  To our great treasure house of world-wide lore.
House of enchantment; splendid jewel case,
  Wherein Athena stores, in manifold
Design and form, her gems—her souls, by grace
  Called Books; their number vast, their worth untold.

And so, from north to south, from sea to sea,
  This is the Nation's prized academy.

Jennie Moore Bryan.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

April 15, 1929

Editorial Forum

HONOR indeed to him, honored of all men who know the man and his work! Herbert Putnam as Librarian of Congress for the thirty years ended April 5, 1929, has accomplished an achievement vastly beyond what he or anyone could have dreamed as possible when he accepted the duty of service as the nation's librarian. It was at personal self-sacrifice that he accepted this duty, and throughout the service has been rendered under cramping conditions of remuneration which could be offset only by inward reward and that outside appreciation which has been so well earned. It has always been his thought and inspiration that the work was all in all, and that he was a servant of the public who considered no personal sacrifice, no devotion to his work to be counted as against the great results to which his vision led him on. That vision has grown as he has grown with the years of his devotion, until now the Library of Congress is such a monument as few lifetimes have built.

In the February *Review of Reviews* Dr. Putnam set forth, with characteristic modesty, what has been accomplished in the thirty years of the new development of the Library, and this was accompanied by two appreciations solicited by its editor, Albert Shaw, from Dr. C. C. Williamson on the library and national side and from Oliver P. Newman on the personal and local side of his career in Washington. In the unique volume of *Essays Offered to Herbert Putnam*, to which threescore of his friends and admirers make contributions, W. W. Bishop, for eight years on the staff of the Library of Congress and since then in a position to appreciate fully its later development, has given a remarkable sketch of these thirty years as seen at short range, and the volume itself is proof alike of the wide scope of Dr. Putnam's work and the widening appreciation in which that work is held throughout the library profession and among scholars. The presentation of this volume on the anniversary day, followed on Saturday by a testimonial luncheon by members of the Round Table, that pleasant company which has grown up in association with Dr. Putnam's personality, simply and fittingly celebrated the occasion and gave Dr. Putnam bon voyage for the professional journey abroad, on which he has since started, and Godspeed for future years of ever-increasing usefulness and success.

* * *

MORE and more has the business librarian come to the front in his special field, the latest development of American library progress. More and more the great business organizations are recognizing the value both of research in general and of the particular service which the librarian as collector of facts can do in giving to business broader vision and closer correlation in the field of industry. Mr. Pellett's paper, read before a section of the National Association of Manufacturers at its annual meeting last year, in outlining what a library can accomplish for a company, presents not only the reasons why every business organization of importance should have a librarian, but schedules the opportunities for service which every business librarian should seek to fulfill. It is gratifying to present this paper, with this double purpose in view, as the Special Libraries Association holds its own annual conference this year in connection with the A. L. A. conference in Washington next month.

* * *

IT was but a score of years ago, as Mr. Brigham's paper points out, that the Special Libraries Association was organized, when a few interested persons, the present writer included, met in a hotel parlor at the Bretton Woods conference of the A. L. A. in 1909 to consider ways and means for development in this then unexplored field of library activity. That seed-sowing has produced extraordinary harvest, for the Special Libraries Association has grown steadily in numbers and importance until now it is by far the most important library organization other than the parent association. Like the A. L. A., it has itself differentiated into special fields, each of which holds its round table or larger meeting during the general gathering, and these special specialties do not include the professional fields of law, medicine and religion. There are no more useful members of the library profession than these

specialists, who utilize not only books but every available source of up-to-date information, including circulars and newspaper clippings which sometimes seem of minor importance. They have done good service to the general librarian in emphasizing the importance of information outside of books, so that there has been a most useful interplay of development as between the public librarian and the business librarian, which will be recognized with emphasis when the historian of our library development makes record years hence.

The more the pity, therefore, that there should be any such division of interest or personal or professional irritation such as has been called forth in the long discussion as to whether there should be a division within the American Library Association covering the field of business libraries. When the two bodies meet simultaneously, as next month, the question becomes purely academic, for the sessions of the Special Libraries Association will naturally attract all business librarians; on the other hand, when there is no simultaneous meeting, it is not out of order that business librarians should take opportunity, at the larger conferences, to discuss their immediate problems. But it may be said that every business librarian should be a member of the A. L. A. as well as of the S. L. A. and vice versa, because it is equally important that specific research should be emphasized on one side and general relations with library progress not less emphasized on the other. When a foremost librarian wrote editorially in the Library Journal earlier in the year that "special librarians have always been of two classes—specialists who are incidentally librarians and librarians who are incidentally specialists," this was in a sense a historical statement indicating how the two classes have come together, though of different origin, and certainly was not meant as a slur to either. No better work has been done in the special library field than through the Municipal Reference Branch of the New York and other public libraries and the business branch of the Newark and other public libraries and, per contra, public libraries have gained much by the willing cooperation of the specialist librarians connected with the research departments which are a feature today of almost all the great corporations.

* * *

It is not surprising that such a national and scientific organization as the American Telegraph and Telephone Company should have developed the special library to its uttermost, especially as President Gifford, when he was earning his way up to that high position, was as a subordinate official of the Telephone Company an early participant in the organization and development of the S. L. A. The article on the work of this company will therefore be especially interesting. But it is more surprising to find out how the idea has permeated and how such an organization as that of the chain stores of the W. T. Grant Company, which holds a position between the Woolworth and kindred organizations limiting themselves to five- and ten-cent sales, and the department stores, is making use of an extensive and very specific development of the business library idea. The success of such an organization indeed depends upon the most careful attention to details, and Miss Aikenhead, in her description of this work, presents an eye-opening paper which should do much in the development of special libraries and do much also to emphasize to public librarians that they can learn a great deal from the study of such thoroughgoing organizations.

* * *

Those who think that the recent communications of Mr. John Cotton Dana to the A. L. A. have been futile or negligible are invited to consider the significance and probable value of a new committee in that organization. At the West Baden Conference a special committee headed by Mr. Ernest J. Reece to consider Mr. Dana's most recent communication recommended a periodic scrutiny of Association activities not less frequently than every third year by a committee to be appointed by the president. This committee was appointed and now consists of Mr. Charles H. Compton, Chairman; Miss Gratia A. Countryman and Mr. H. H. B. Meyer. It will be noted that despite Mr. Dana's objection to surveys, his criticisms have brought about what is practically a periodic survey of headquarters activities. These activities are now so many, and reach out in so many directions, either outside of the Association's normal region of activity, or at any rate close to its boundary line, that the average member of the Association, if asked to enumerate and justify them, would have a hard task before him. They are ably interpreted in the reports of the different bodies to which the Association has entrusted them, but it is eminently proper that at intervals a bird's-eye view of them should be communicated to the members of the Association by a body that has no direct connection with any of them. Nothing but good can come of the activities of this committee.

A. E. B.

Current News at the Library

By Faith Holmes Hyers

Editor, Publicity, Los Angeles Public Library

TODAY'S insistent call for the very last word in style, in invention, discovery, and in print, is felt nowhere more than at the public library. The ideal department of a metropolitan library that handles current news in newspapers and periodicals should combine the systematic efficiency of a business and mail order house with the quietness and seclusion of a library reference room.

Toward such a Utopia in current news service the Los Angeles Public Library is patiently striving in its periodical and newspaper department under Blanche E. McKown and a staff of twelve. Over 200,000 pieces of mail must be handled each year, and 5000 periodicals and 400 daily and weekly newspapers made available to readers. This department handles all library mail and places subscriptions, receiving, preparing and distributing periodicals to the entire system of central library, 46 branches and 80 stations, checking up on current bound files of periodicals and newspapers. A budget of $13,500 was administered last year with a contract order of $7,500 placed with a New York agency, and an expenditure of approximately $6,000 in direct purchase of local papers and magazines, miscellaneous current magazines, H. W. Wilson publications, foreign papers and magazines.

The staff is vigilant that no new periodical of worth escape its alert eye. A careful check for news of new publications is made on *The Bulletin of Bibliography, Periodica* and *The American News Trade Journal,* the bulletins of the New York Public Library, the St. Louis Public Library and the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. Samples of new publications are requested and examined, and sent to library department heads for further consideration. If the quality of such periodicals or public demand for them drops off, subscriptions are discontinued.

From the periodical room at the Central Library 74,205 magazines were circulated last year. This includes largely magazines of a general or unclassified type with a smaller circulation of specialized periodicals on art, music, science, civics, history and business—reference copies of which are available in the departmental reading rooms. One-half of the wall space in the periodical room is given to magazines prepared for circulation, and one-half to reading room copies of current numbers in magazine covers.

Even though the reference work with bound magazine volumes is carried on from the history department, much current magazine reference work is done in the periodical room. *Current Magazine Contents* and *Readers' Guide* is in constant use at the desk. To supplement these indexes each member of the staff is made responsible for leading current articles on certain subjects most in demand, such as aeronautics, foreign affairs, science, drama and interesting people. Entries of articles on these subjects are made on cards and filed at the charging desk. Questions pour in over the telephone and at the desk, ranging all the way from "What poultry magazines are published in Los Angeles?" to "the real name of S. S. Van Dine, mysterious serialized mystery story writer." To aid in meeting the insatiable demand for serialized fiction, periodicals containing best seller stories are collected and placed on attractive shelves for use of the public. Through posters and bulletin boards, attention is called to special articles of interest.

The newspaper room is the hub of equally great activity, and demand is constant for the current reports on domestic news, financial conditions, foreign relations, aviation, amusements and history-making events. The Los Angeles Public Library subscribes for, or receives by gift, 160 different newspapers, representing the important cities of the world. Home towners may find their favorite paper even if they hail from Auckland, New Zealand; Melbourne, Australia; Paris, London, Berlin, Buenos Aires or Pasadena! Eighty-four chairs in the newspaper reading room and the twenty-four standing racks for current papers of large cities are constantly in use.

At the attendant's desk is a compact file of the daily papers, kept in flat drawers especially designed. At the back of the desk on shelves is kept the collection of smaller town papers. The Newspaper Directory, a blackboard chart, is also located here, showing the list of cities represented in the files and the arrival of each issue from day to day. Three indexes to bound volumes are available—the *New York Times Index,* the *Christian Science Monitor Index* (limited period only) and the *United States Daily Index.* The staff supplements these indexes by clipping current "Table of Contents" of the *Los Angeles Times,* printed each day.

A reserve section, specially designed for the

use of bound newspaper files equipped with excellent lighting and slanting tables, is gratifying to the researchers who spend long hours reading the fine print of the papers. Nearly 4000 bound volumes are housed in a large stack room below the newspaper room, where are long files of leading papers of London, Boston, New York, San Francisco and Los Angeles and shorter files of smaller cities. Nine thousand bound volumes of newspapers were called for last year in this section, and on a number of occasions files were subpoenaed for court evidence. Photostat copies of wanted articles are made on request for a nominal charge by the library photostat service.

An important piece of work completed by the staff this year was the preparation, mimeographing and binding of two volumes, *Guide to Current Periodicals* and *Guide to Bound Periodicals*, in the Library, necessitated by the departmental division of periodicals in the central building. These guides list every periodical in the Library, indicating the number of volumes or newspapers, and in which department they are located. Mimeographed copies were sent to each desk in the central building and are constantly referred to in directing inquirers and in checking up on periodicals received. Quarterly supplementary bulletins of changes or editions are sent to each department.

In a word, the periodical and newspaper department makes itself responsible for keeping the library up to date in current news, receiving today's publications, filing yesterday's, binding last year's, and investigating the latest thing in print.

Salt Lake City Opens New Branch

NINETEEN-TWENTY-EIGHT has been a specially good library year in Salt Lake City. The annual report of the librarian shows an increase in circulation over 1927 of 33,278, with 7231 books purchased and nearly 2000 donated, with 1,882,856 visitors during the year and 29,721 questions looked up in the reference department of the Main Library alone. The event, however, which has made the year a really notable one has been the erection and opening of a new branch library in the Sugar House district, the Sprague Branch. A site for the building was donated by the city in the park at Sugar House, giving a most appropriate setting to the very attractive building. The building was completed and ready to open Dec. 5. The style of architecture is Tudor, the building material stone and brick, and the whole effect, with landscaped grounds, is charming. It was made possible by an initial appropriation of $30,000, followed by an additional appropriation of $6,000, made by the City Commission for this special purpose.

Dover, New Jersey

THE gain of 8363 in circulation over 1927 in the Dover Public Library was accomplished by intensive work with the schools, the stressing of new and interesting books for adults, the monthly book-list, and last but by no means least, individual suggestions. The total number of volumes borrowed for home use was 53,783.

Library Corner-Stone Laid at Lehigh University

LEHIGH UNIVERSITY made the laying of the corner-stone of its $500,000 addition to its library a feature of its alumni home-coming on Feb. 22. The new building will have a floor capacity of five times that of the old and will have stacks and other shelving for 500,000 volumes and a reading room to seat between 350 and 400 readers. Eleven seminars, a treasure room with large vault, a browsing room and an art gallery are features of the new building. Addresses were given by President C. R. Richards, Mr. Walter R. Okeson, Prof. H. S. Leach, the Librarian, and Mr. Paul M. Paine, Librarian of the Syracuse Public Library and a graduate of Lehigh.

Virginia

BY the will of Mrs. Sallie May Dooley, who died in September, 1925, $500,000 became available to the Richmond Public Library Board for the purchase of a site, erection of a building and equipment for a public library. The plans for the building, finally accepted by the Board, are the result of a combined study of more than fifty library buildings by the librarian and the architects. The building is a modern application of classic design, and will be built of George Washington sandstone. It will be three stories in height. The capacity of the building will admit an expansion of four to eight times the service now given. It should be ready for occupancy early in 1930.

The Open Round Table

Conditions of Acceptance

To the Editor of THE LIBRARY JOURNAL:

Permit me to clarify one important condition I wished to express in the February 1 issue of THE LIBRARY JOURNAL, which led to some misunderstanding. The recipient of my War Library would need to obtain the funds to cover the cost of "treating" the newspaper files and scrap books in order to preserve them permanently.

Thanking you for bringing this to the attention of your readers, I am

Respectfully yours,

JOSEPH BROADMAN.

141 West 41 Street, New York City.

An Observer Makes Inquiry

To the Editor of the LIBRARY JOURNAL:

To one who is sitting on the side-lines watching the play between the American Library Association and the Special Libraries Association with that much-buffeted and often laid-aside ball, the Business Libraries Section, it is certainly amusing to read page 10 of the January, 1929, *Bulletin* of the A. L. A.

In a few crisp sentences there is given a faint idea that a discussion occurred at the Council meeting on Dec. 29, 1928, after which a motion to grant the petition for a Business Libraries Section was seconded and carried. Immediately following that full account of the establishment of this important section comes a report from the Committee on Petitions that a "lack of information on the subject of round tables and sections" was discovered.

And therefore the committee recommends "that the Council require that a section may be created only in the interests of a distinctive phase of library work, and only on receipt of a petition setting forth the *need* for the new section whose signers shall have a prime interest in this subdivision or phase, and who, as signers . . . shall signify their intention of becoming charter members of the section, if approved, and willing to assume all the obligations and privileges of paying dues, holding office and serving on committees. The number of signers required should be perhaps *one hundred*, certainly not less than seventy-five or sixty."

Can it be possible that all of these decisions were reached after the Business Libraries Round Table had become a Section? May one wonder what might have happened if this Committee on Petitions' report had preceded the reconsideration for the Business Libraries Section? Were there managers and umpires in this game?

Suffice it to say, life in the world of library associations is not lacking in sport!

ONLY AN OBSERVER.

"Waiting List" Preferred

To the Editor of the LIBRARY JOURNAL:

In an article by Miss Lutie E. Stearns contributed to the *Wilson Bulletin* for March, I find the following:

"In a public, tax-supported library there should be no privileged class; . . . it should be first come, first served."

Amen! Applicants for books should be served in order, and no applicant should be debarred merely because at the time of his application, the book that he wants happens not to be physically present on the shelves. His name should be placed on a waiting list and he should have his chance to get the book when his turn comes.

This, of course, means the much abused "reserve privilege"—a very bad name. I am reminded of the definition of a crab as "a red fish that walks backward" which was passed as excellent except in three respects, namely, that a crab is not red, it is not a fish and it does not walk backward. In like manner, the "reserve privilege" is not a reserve and it is not a privilege. I should prefer to say that we place the names of applicants on a waiting list.

To do otherwise is really to create a privileged class composed of those users of the library who have nothing else to do but hang around until the book they want happens to come in.

Yours very truly,

ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK.

New York Times Requested

THE Princeton University Library is interested in securing volumes of the *New York Times* in the period Jan. 1, 1901, to Dec. 31, 1912. Please offer any runs within this period to Lawrence Heyl, chief of acquisitions department.

Rent Collections Again!

To the Editor of the Library Journal:

The writer was much interested in the symposium published in the March 15 number of Library Journal, "Public Libraries and Pay Collections." For the past fifteen years I have had charge of a small public library, and I have constantly struggled with the demand for new fiction. The staff has been so small that I have had to buy all of the books and have had daily contact with our patrons at the desk. It seems to me that it is the province of the librarian, who buys books, to study the tastes of the community so that she may buy books adapted to them, just as a merchant buys a stock that will suit his community, not necessarily goods which he would choose for himself. If we refuse to buy the books which our patrons request, new fiction and some new non-fiction, are we not making a mistake? Many of these reflect modern times, modern thought. Should a librarian stand still, while the world moves on beyond her? Keep out all harmful books, by all means, but this does not include all of the new books. Should we hold ourselves so aloof that we meet our patrons who ask for a book of new fiction with a "holier than thou" attitude?

Our rent collection has been appreciated because we reserve these copies, while we do not reserve the seven-day books. We use the telephone to notify our patrons whenever this is possible. Mary A. Egan.

A Warning to Librarians

Librarians, especially those in university and college libraries, may be interested in the experience we have had with a firm calling itself "Litteratura Chemica," Dr. Karl Knapp, Mannheim. We ordered a set of *Gazzetta Chimica Italiana* from this firm and were requested to send payment in advance. The price was somewhat below the market. We replied by cable that our agent in Leipzig would pay for the set immediately upon delivery. It is needless to say that the set was never obtained, although we had made arrangements to pay cash on the day the set was delivered in Leipzig. Under the circumstances we are not confident that, had we paid in advance, we would ever have received the set or the return of the money. The firm has been circularizing American libraries, offering sets at bargain prices. Iowa State College Library.

A New Wing Added

In June, 1928, the new wings added to each end of the Middlebury College Library by the generous interest of Dr. Starr, were opened. The new wings carry out the simple, classical style of the older work. They are built of the same bluish white Vermont marble, though the rear of each wing is of stucco to allow the addition of stack room more easily in the future. The original main entrance is retained in the enlarged building, the new doorways at the back serving merely as emergency exits.

Go Early!

The A. L. A. Committee to Cooperate with the National Congress of Parents and Teachers hopes that some librarians attending the A. L. A. Conference will be able to go on to Washington early enough to be present at all or part of the annual convention of the N. C. P. T. at the Hotel Washington May 4 to 11. There will be a library exhibit, planned by the Chairman of the A. L. A. Committee to Cooperate with the N. C. P. T.

An Offer to Public Libraries

We have a run of the *Publishers' Weekly* from 1890 to 1927 (76 volumes), bound in half morocco, in good condition which we can offer at moderate cost to any public library that may be interested.

The *Publishers' Weekly* is the material source for the history and records of book publishing and selling, and these volumes cover a period of the keenest interest for the modern investigator.

R. R. Bowker Co.

New Prices of "Reading With a Purpose" Courses

Beginning April 1 quantity prices for the *Reading With a Purpose* courses will apply to assorted lots, according to announcement being made from A. L. A. headquarters. This will mean that in the future 10, 25, 50 or 100 courses may be purchased in any assortment of titles at the price applicable to that particular quantity.

This new arrangement will place the courses within the reach of libraries which heretofore could not take advantage of quantity prices. It will enable more libraries to have them for resale and will also mean a considerable saving to individuals who wish to purchase for personal use.

In the Library World

Louisiana

ROBERT J. USHER'S first report as librarian of the Howard Memorial Library in New Orleans is also the first report of the library to be published in separate form since 1890. The first and second reports of the library for the years 1889 and 1890 were printed under one cover. At least one other report was printed in a local newspaper. Otherwise the reports of the library exist only in typewritten form. The Howard Memorial Library, established in 1889 by Miss Annie Turner Howard as a memorial to her father, Charles Turner Howard, had had only two librarians previous to Mr. Usher's appointment: Charles A. Nelson, 1889-1891, and William Beer, who served from 1891 to the time of his death in 1927. During the year ending Nov. 30, 1928, an addition to the endowment fund of $50,000 was made by members of the Howard family.

The resources of the library comprise approximately 60,000 catalogued volumes and about 100,000 more uncatalogued and unarranged as to author and subject-matter, accumulated in basement and attic of the building, on shelves and piled on the floor. It is hoped to acquire additional room by moving the collections of the Confederate Memorial Association from the Confederate Memorial Hall a short space east of the library building to another building, the Cabildo.

South Dakota

EVERY town in South Dakota with a population of 1400 or more and 14 of the 27 towns with a population of 1000 to 1400 have public libraries. Of the 68 town libraries in the State, 46 are supported by taxation and 22 are privately supported.

Virginia

THE annual report of the Librarian, Miss Mary D. Pretlow of the Norfolk Public Library, shows an increase in circulation over the year 1927 of 25,281—the total circulation for the year being 325,558. The total use of the Library, including home use of pictures and books, reading-room use, and story-hour attendance, amounted to 422,150, an increase of 28,038 over the preceding year. New volumes totalling 4872 were added to the collection during the year, not including government documents deposited in the Library during the year.

Indiana

MORE and more libraries in the State of Indiana, as in other States, are receiving gifts, bequests and memorial funds for financial support, states *Reader's Ink* of Indianapolis for February. During the past year one of the outstanding gifts of the year in Indiana was the Rauh Memorial Library, the beautiful Indianapolis residence of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel E. Rauh.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles N. Teetor of Hagerstown, Ind., have given a $20,000 library building to that town. The Howe Military School at Howe, Ind., received $100,000 for a library building from Jennie B. Gunther. The Walther League gave $15,000 for the support and growth of Valparaiso University Library. Professor Frank Fetter of Princeton University gave $2,000 to the Public Library of Peru, Ind., for the purchase of books in memory of his mother. Bequests were made—one of $2,850, by Miss Anna Chittenden to the Greenfield Public Library, and the other, $2,300, by Mrs. Rebecca Hardwich to the Fairmount Public Library.

Illinois

THE Oak Park Public Library of Oak Park, Ill., states in its yearly report that it costs 66 cents per capita for the library to circulate books. It also points out that this 66 cents allows the privilege of not only borrowing the latest fiction and non-fiction, but the free access to a valuable reference collection, more than 221 periodicals, which are on file, a picture collection and pamphlets on current topics.

Pennsylvania

WHEN you borrow a book from the Hoyt Public Library at Kingston, Pa., the bookmark that the assistant slips into your book will inform you that you are reading one of the 10,000 books from your borough library; that 5,000 Kingston residents are also readers; that 100,000 books were taken home from the library in 1928; and it urges you, if you have obtained useful information, to tell your neighbor about it. This is an unusually brief, condensed and businesslike report, and will in all probability bear fruitage by being copied in many library reports next year.

Racine Readers Use Library More Than Ever

THE people of Racine, Wis., used the public library more than ever in 1928, states the librarian in her annual report; 607,652 volumes and 3857 pictures were borrowed for home use, thousands of requests for information were answered at the main library and branches, requiring the use of additional thousands of volumes of which no record was kept; 7783 borrowers signed applications for library cards, the largest number registered during any one year of the library's history. Using the 1928 population estimate of the United States Census Bureau, the circulation average 7.1 volumes per person in the city, 5 in the rural parts of the county, and 6.7 volumes per person for the entire county. The expenditure for this service was 89.9 cents for each person in the city, 52.5 cents a person outside the city, and 83.6 cents for each person of the combined city and rural population, a low per capita cost for modern library service.

Ohio

THE annual report of the Youngstown Public Library for 1928 shows a year of rapid growth and development. The new and attractive West Side Branch was dedicated and opened to the public on June 16th and a new branch in rented quarters was opened on the East Side on May 19th. The cornerstone of the new South Side Library was laid on June 10th. In addition to the two new branches opened, an entirely new phase of library work was inaugurated during the year, that of Hospital Service. This new development which is now serving ten institutions for the sick and "shut-ins," has already proved its merits and is returning as large a circulation as a branch library. As a result of the new branches and Hospital Department and also due to the largely increased book budget there was a notable increase in the circulation of 104,811 over the year 1927. The total circulation of all departments of the Library, including the Home Reading and School circulation, was 777,893.

Bangor, Maine

STATISTICS from the Bangor Public Library, Maine, show another large increase in the use of books. The circulation for the year was 293,646, an increase over 1927 of 23,818, or 8.8 per cent. During the year 12,904 volumes were classified and added to the library, and 2517 new applications were taken. More than 56 per cent of the total population of the city made use of the public library.

New York

THE increase in loans by the Schenectady Public Library and its four branches is 55,849 volumes. This was due, in part, to the flexibility of the new loan system by which as many books as are needed may be borrowed. In the reference room alone some 2,495 persons were given personal assistance, and the loan of children's books totaled 107,075 volumes. During the summer months traveling libraries averaging 80 volumes were sent to six summer camps and 2,524 volumes were loaned to be taken out of town on vacations. The total circulation for the entire system for the year was 425,788 volumes loaned to 22,826 registered borrowers.

THE librarian of the Buffalo Public Library has recently issued the thirty-second annual report of that library. In it he states that the number of books borrowed from the fourteen circulating libraries in 1928 for use in the homes, the schools and places of trade and of industry was 2,992,277—a number greater by 324,669 than were borrowed in 1927 and by far the greatest circulation increase recorded for any one year. The number of borrowers who registered during the year was 44,316. In this number are included 94 non-residents, 141 short-term borrowers and 445 non-resident students, attending Buffalo schools. The total number of registered borrowers is 153,233, which, with the 60,103 pupils enrolled in the elementary schools which the library has equipped with classroom libraries, makes a total number of recorded borrowers of 213,336. Those who borrow public library books from traveling libraries loaned to groups and organizations are not recorded.

THE half million mark has been passed by 100,000 in the circulation of books during 1928 from the Albany Public Library. The number borrowed was 602,405, a gain over 1927 of 104,969, or 21 per cent. Every library reported more use in every way. Children borrowed nearly a third again as many books as in the year before. The jump in the circulation of children's books from 165,553 to 219,884 is easily traceable to the scheduled visits of school classes and to the opening of new children's rooms at Pine Hills and John V. L. Pruyn branches. This year the Albany Public Library is offering for the first time a course of lectures similar to those that have been given for thirty years in the Boston Public Library, or "afternoons with books," on Sunday, in the auditorium at Harmanus Bleecker Library. The meetings have been arranged to coincide as nearly as possible with the birthday anniversaries of the authors under discussion.

Library Organizations

New Jersey Library Association

THE thirty-third annual meeting of the New Jersey Library Association and the Pennsylvania Library Club were held at the Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City, March 8-9, 1929. A business meeting of the New Jersey Library Association opened the first session.

Miss Adeline T. Davidson, chairman of the Scholarship Committee of the Association, reported that the association had voted to establish a scholarship fund, to be known as the George M. La Monte Scholarship Fund, in honor of George M. La Monte of Bound Brook, N. J., who died in office Dec. 24, 1927. She reported further that 150 had already contributed to the fund.

After the business meeting round tables on the following subjects were held: Useful New Pamphlets, Educational Agencies in the Community, Reference Work, Popularizing Less Well-Known Books, and Library Publicity.

Dr. Clarence E. Partch, dean of education at Rutgers University, was the first speaker Friday evening. His address, "Vocational Guidance and the Library," will be published in the LIBRARY JOURNAL in the near future. The second and concluding address of the evening was by Charles E. Rush, librarian of Teachers' College Library, Columbia University. He took as his subject "Our Obligation to the Explorer."

The officers elected for the coming year are as follows: President, Adeline T. Davidson, librarian, Free Public Library, East Orange; vice-president, Maud I. Stull, librarian, Public Library, Passaic; secretary, John B. Fogg, librarian, Free Public Library, New Brunswick; treasurer, Hazel C. Clark, librarian, Burlington County Free Library, Mount Holly; member of executive board, George A. Osborn, librarian, Rutgers University Library, New Brunswick.

Pennsylvania Library Club

THE Pennsylvania Library Club session at the thirty-third joint annual meeting of the New Jersey Library Association and the Pennsylvania Library Club was held March 9, 1929, at the Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City, at 10.30 a.m. In the absence of the president, A. Edward Newton, who was in Europe, and of the vice-president, Dr. Thomas Lynch Montgomery, unable to be present because of illness, John Ashhurst, librarian of the Free Library of Philadelphia, took the chair and called the meeting to order. Mr. Ashhurst introduced the speaker, Dr. Kenneth G. Matheson, president of Drexel Institute. Dr. Matheson's address was on "Some Phases of the Russian Educational System."

There was only one speaker at the joint session of the Pennsylvania Library Club and the New Jersey Library Association, held Saturday evening, March 9, at 8.30. The session was presided over by Mr. Ashhurst. Because of the distinction of the Pennsylvania Library Club speaker, Dr. J. Duncan Spaeth, head of the Department of English, Princeton University, the New Jersey Library Association did not select anyone to put on the program with him. Dr. Spaeth's address was on "Whitman and the Years of the Modern."

Fourteenth Annual Illinois Regional Library Conferences, 1929

Held under the Direction of the Library Extension Division

Date	*Place of Meeting Public Library*	*Hostess Librarian*
March 1—Friday	Evanston	Ida Wright
March 8—Friday	Peoria	Earl Browning
March 15—Friday	Decatur	Minnie Dill
March 18—Monday	Alton	Mrs. Jane Bassett
March 26—Tuesday	Macomb	Mrs. Ida Sturgeon
April 5—Friday	Gilman	Clara Louise Wurdell
April 8—Monday	Mt. Carmel	Mabel Murray
April 9—Tuesday	Carbondale	Julia Errett
April 22—Monday	Sterling	Carolyn Immel
April 23—Tuesday	Peru	Fanny Snyder
April 29—Monday	Kewanee	Helen Clears

Illinois Special Libraries Association

THE March meeting of the Illinois Chapter of the Special Libraries Association was held in the assembly hall of the Chicago Historical Society on March 18, 1929.

L. Hubbard Shattuck, director of the society, delivered an address on "The Chicago Historical Society as a Public Institution." Mr. Shattuck described the history and growth of this organization, its present methods of operation, the future plans for extended activity, its proposed new building in Lincoln Park and its widening usefulness.

At the conclusion of Mr. Shattuck's talk, an inspection trip was made by the members of the Illinois Chapter through the museum and library of the society, viewing at first hand some of the treasures and historic records which they may have occasion to refer to in their work.

California Library Association

TWO District Meetings were held during March. The 7th met at Eureka, with a well-attended luncheon meeting. State Librarian Mabel R. Gillis, President of the Association, was the guest speaker, telling of "Our Job—Library Service," which is carried out in so many diverse ways throughout the State, each community fitting its methods to the materials and problems at hand, but all supplying the book for the borrower. Edna Davis is the President of this district, with Grace Burton assisting her as Secretary. The 9th met at Oroville, with County Librarian Carmelita Duff and City Librarian Mrs. Edith S. Simons in charge. Speakers included Miss Gillis, who brought greetings from the whole Association; Mary Harris, Siskiyou County Librarian, who told of her experiences in Louisiana; Miss Esther Sullivan, representing the Native Daughters, who outlined interesting phases of California history, and Flora B. Ludington of Mills College, who described the international libraries of Europe as seen by her in a recent tour.

HAZEL G. GIBSON, *Secretary-Treasurer.*

Ohio Valley Regional Group of Catalogers

THE first meeting in three years of the Ohio Valley Regional Group of Catalogers was held in Cincinnati on March 23, 1929. Luncheon was served at the new Y. W. C. A. building, and the discussion meeting that followed was held in the spacious clubroom. Sixty were present, representing seventeen libraries of Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio. The program opened with a discussion of Margaret Mann's book, *The Classification and Cataloging of Books*, by Miss Katharine Strong of the Cincinnati Public Library. Miss Virginia Hollingsworth of the Dayton Public Library gave a talk on "Short Cuts in Cataloging That Are Safe"; Miss Maude Avery of the Ohio State University Library spoke on "Cataloging Serials and Continuations"; Mrs. Verna Pate of the Indianapolis Public Library talked on "Replacements and Additional Copies," and Miss Marie Peters told of the Indianapolis Public Library's "Special Methods Used in the Binding and Cataloging of Music." Officers elected for the coming year are as follows: President, Miss Virginia Hollingsworth, Dayton Public Library; secretary-treasurer, Miss Helen Clark, Indiana State Library. The 1930 meeting will be held in Indianapolis.

Pasadena Library Club

THE Pasadena Library Club met in the banquet hall of the Hotel Vista del Arroyo for its second gathering of the season on Saturday, Feb. 16, at 6.30.

Carey McWilliams, author, lawyer, literary critic and reviewer for the Los Angeles *Saturday Night*, was speaker of the evening. On ground thoroughly familiar and in a sympathetic and intelligent manner, he told of the "Lost Novels" of the world—gems of literary value, unaccountably lost.

Sixth District Meeting of the California Library Association

THE Child in the Light of the New Psychology" was the subject for discussion before the Children's Librarians Section of the Sixth District of the California Library Association on Jan. 12. Dr. Ross Moore gave a paper on "The New Psychology—What Is It?"; Dr. Arthur R. Timme addressed the group on "The Emotional Life of the Pre-School Child," and Dr. Miriam VanWaters discussed "The Emotional Life of Children." Aside from the three principal speakers, short talks were given by Dr. Elizabeth Woods, Mrs. Jessie Chase Fenton and Dr. Norman Fenton.

Chicago Meeting of Catalogers and Classifiers

THE winter dinner meeting of the Chicago Regional Group of Catalogers and Classifiers was held on March 4 at the Chicago Nurses Club. The program was a discussion of Miss Margaret Mann's *The Classification and Cataloging of Books*, led by Miss Grace Kelley of the John Crerar Library, and Miss Harriet Howe of the Advanced Graduate Library School. Miss Kelley considered the work as a whole, while Miss Howe limited herself to the very interesting section on "Character Traits."

Boston Catalogers and Classifiers Meet

THE Boston Group of Catalogers and Classifiers met at the Vendôme, Commonwealth Avenue at Dartmouth Street, Thursday evening, April 11. The dinner meeting was followed by a program at which William D. Goddard, Librarian of the Woburn Public Library, spoke on "The Classifier in the Small Library," and Prof. M. Gay of Simmons College spoke on "The New Biography."

Book Reviews

United States Catalog. Books in print Jan. 1, 1928, edited by Mary Burnham; managing editor, Carol Hurd. Edition 4. The H. W. Wilson Company, 1928.

THE publication of the *United States Catalog, Books in Print* 1928, is much more than the welcome event of a time-saving and indispensable bibliographic tool for all who have to do with current books and their publishers and prices. Its appearance challenges attention to a monumental project in international trade bibliography, the inception and achievement of one man, which has been firmly established and brought to full stature within a single generation. For this is the fourth edition of the now familiar *United States Catalog.* Its preface modestly compresses into a single paragraph all mention of the earlier editions of 1899, 1902 and 1912, the promising forerunners of this mammoth 1928 armful of trade bibliography. The statistics concerning it are almost startling; its dimensions, its weight, its 575,000 entries on 3174 pages for 190,000 separate titles! Its program is no less than to record in one alphabet the author, subject and title of every American book which on Jan. 1, 1928, was obtainable through regular trade channels *plus* (and these addenda should be specially noted) Canadian books published in England, British books regularly imported into the United States, music in book form, a selection of Federal and State documents, and the publications of colleges and universities and of strictly learned societies. But impressive as these facts and figures are, they very inadequately and imperfectly convey any full sense of the amount and kinds of time, work, thought, vision and supervision that must go to the preparation and successful publication of such a book. Publishers and promoters may dream and plan, a 100 per cent effective organization may be at hand, practiced printers may cooperate to the utmost, yet somewhere between publisher's office and printery there must be done a quantity of grueling work, fraught at every step with infinite detail, unceasing vigilance and straining after accuracy, known only to those who have been caught in the clutches of bibliographic compiling and editing.

The work in the present instance, if one may judge from the title-page, seems to have been the charge and responsibility of the editors, Mary Burnham and Carol Hurd, to whom equally with publishers and printers will be accorded the gratitude and appreciation of booksellers and librarians.

That such a volume can be produced at all by a commercial publisher, presumably at a profit, and without the help of outside subsidies or grants, is due chiefly to a perfecting of the mechanics of cumulation and to the "service basis" method of sale, a sliding scale of prices which distributes the opportunity to acquire the book, as well as the cost, among many rather than among the few who usually have to pay the whole cost of such publishing projects.

Certain features new in this edition and designed to make the catalog more useful to libraries should be noted. As an aid to catalogers, the Dewey decimal classification number and a list of the subject headings under which the book also appears in the *United States Catalog* are given for all books which have been included in the *Book Review Digest* since 1915, while for all these books, and many thousands more, are given the Library of Congress numbers used in ordering printed catalog cards.

The preface is short, meaty, and should be carefully read by everyone who is likely to use the catalog regularly.

The volume is typographically meritorious. Through carefully studied indentions, spacing and contrasting types, the eye picks up the desired entry with remarkable ease. A thoughtful and practical feature is the printing of the first and last sections on double-weight paper.

J. I. WYER,
Director, New York State Library.

How to Appreciate Prints

A DOZEN new illustrations, notably examples of mezzotints and lithographs, corrections of some misprints and numerous footnotes, bringing the account up to date, are features of the fourth revised edition of Frank Weitenkampf's standard work on *How to Appreciate Prints* (Scribner, $3), now in its thirteenth printing. The author is curator of prints of the New York Public Library. One footnote in the chapter on lithography in the third edition ("Bellows, Bolton, Brown and others have taken up lithography with interesting results") has not been altered, although Bellows died in 1925.

Back from South Africa

MR. MILTON J. FERGUSON, who was given a year's leave of absence from his library to study and report upon library conditions in South Africa, has returned to continue his work as State Librarian of California.

School Library Notes

Need for Librarians Seen in All Schools

YOUNG teachers and college graduates who are "seeking a career that offers an interesting and profitable return on life investment," are urged to consider the field of school library work, by Miss Helen Harris, director of special courses for school librarians at the Drexel Institute, Philadelphia, in an article in the March *Journal of the National Education Association*.

"The library in the school," says Miss Harris, "has three objectives: To lead children to love books and reading; to teach them to supplement their studies with other than textbooks; to train them to use public libraries intelligently.

"The average child spends at most ten years in school as compared with the rest of his life outside. During those latter years the public library, if he knows it, may become his continuation school. One of the most important things the school librarian does is to bridge the gap between school and public library so that boys and girls may not be like the child who said: 'No, I don't go to the library any more. I've quit school.'"

Miss Harris points out that the school librarianship is a comparatively new vocation but one which will offer employment to a rapidly increasing number of men and women in the future.

"School librarianship," says Miss Harris, "is a challenge to a keen, wideawake young person who is not afraid of work, who is willing to study constantly changing methods of education, seeking to find ways in which the library can serve them, and who will give the best that is in him trying to help boys and girls to know the joys that good books bring to those who know and love them."

States and Counties Aid School Libraries

STATE aid in the establishment and maintenance of school libraries in rural communities is provided by law in 16 states, and county aid for similar purposes is authorized by statute in 12 states, according to an item in *School Life*, by Edith A. Lathrop, assistant specialist of the Bureau of Education. Wide variation exists in the amount contributed and in the restrictions surrounding the acceptance and use of the funds. The aid given is usually not large, and it is granted on condition that local districts contribute a certain amount. Books purchased with state or county school funds for use in rural school districts must be selected from lists prepared or approved by the state's chief school officer, State Board of Education, or like authority. Other requirements are the possession of a certain number of books, a yearly report of the condition of the libraries, and in some states bookcases must be supplied. In at least three states librarians must be provided for high-school libraries.

National Education Association Meets at Cleveland

IN response to the call from the Chairman of the American Library Association Education Committee, a large number of school librarians and others interested in school library work attended the meeting of educational leaders held in Cleveland Feb. 24-28, 1929.

It was the wish of the committee that a plan be formulated for closer relations with the National Education Association and that a discussion group be appointed by the President of the National Education Association, the President of the American Library Association, and the Chairman of the Education Committee, whose mission would be to attend the annual meetings of the Department of Superintendence and to arrange to have school library problems given a place in the regular National Education Association programs so that opportunity for free discussion could be had and a cross-section of opinions of both teachers and librarians could be obtained.

Other important meetings at the Convention were those held by the Board of Education for librarianship. At these meetings desirable and essential educational and library qualifications for school librarians and librarians of teacher training institutions were freely discussed by both the National Education Association and the American Library Association members present.

SIMMONS Library School reports three deaths. Miss Mary Emery, 1908, who has been librarian of the Tilton, N. H., Public Library and Tilton Seminary. Miss Annie E. Harwood, 1913, an indexer at the H. W. Wilson Company, New York, for the last three years. Miss Emily Lovell, 1927, died of tubercular meningitis in January. Miss Lovell was for more than a year a reference assistant in the Frick Art Reference Library, New York City, but was forced to resign last spring on account of ill health.

Among Librarians

Harriet Barbour, Michigan 1927, has been promoted from Senior Assistant in the Technology Division of the Detroit Public Library to Assistant to the Chief of the Department of Training and Personnel of the Detroit Public Library.

Carolyn Binder, Michigan 1927, formerly Assistant in the Oak Park Library, Illinois, is now Reference Assistant in the Ryerson Library Art Institute, Chicago.

Miss Josephine Adelaide Clark, Librarian of Smith College for twelve years, died recently at her home in Claremont, Cal. Miss Clark's first position in library work was cataloger in the library of the Union for Christian Work in Brooklyn, N. Y., in 1889. A year later she accepted a similar position in the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences where she remained until she took up her work as Assistant Librarian at Gray Herbarium, Harvard University. In the fall of 1893 she was appointed Assistant Librarian in the United States Department of Agriculture and in January she became Librarian. In June, 1907, she accepted the position of Librarian of Smith College, where she served until she retired from library work in 1919.

Donald Coney, Michigan 1927, Librarian of the University of Delaware, has become Assistant Librarian of the University of North Carolina.

Katharine Harris, Michigan 1927, former Reference Librarian of the Michigan State College, is now Assistant Librarian of the Pontiac (Mich.) Public Library.

Elliot Moses, Michigan 1927, Assistant in charge of the East Engineering Library of the University of Michigan, has accepted the position of Librarian of the University of Delaware.

Raymond W. R. Maier, Michigan 1927, Assistant in charge of Exchanges and Duplicates in the University of Michigan Library, has become Head of the Order Department, University of Rochester Library.

Nannie G. Sanders, Michigan 1927, formerly Cataloger in the University of Texas Library, is now Senior Cataloger in the University of Michigan Library.

Willard P. Lewis, N. Y. State '13, after ten years as Librarian of the University of New Hampshire, has resigned to become Librarian of the new Olin Memorial Library at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, commencing July first. Dr. William J. James, for thirty-eight years Librarian of Wesleyan University, becomes Librarian Emeritus.

Dr. S. A. Hayt, aged 87 years, for 24 years Librarians of the Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library of Watertown, N. Y., died Feb. 26, 1929. Mr. Hayt was one of the oldest graduates of Princeton University and pastor of the Stone Street Presbyterian Church from 1877 to 1898. In 1904 Dr. Hayt became librarian of the Flower Memorial Library, a position which he held until he was stricken ill April 10, 1928.

Brazil Summer School

THE first summer session in South America for visitors will open on July 15 at the Brazil Research Institute, Rio de Janeiro. This is an event of profound importance. Educationally, it blazes for South America the path made by European universities in planning summer sessions primarily for visitors. Internationally, it is another step toward bettering the relations between Brazil and the United States. Application blanks and further information about the summer session and the tour may be obtained from the Institute of International Education, 2 West 45th Street, New York.

Courses in Library Science for School Librarians

THREE courses in Library Science will be offered in the first term of the summer quarter under the auspices of the Library School, Carnegie Library of Atlanta, at Emory University from June 10 to July 17. These courses are offered to help meet the need for high school librarians, with less than a full year of professional training.

Fordham University Summer School

FOUR courses will be given in the summer course in Library Science at the Fordham University. Cataloging will be given by Miss Ellen A. Hedrick; School Library Administration and Book Selection by Miss Mary McDonnell, Director; Reference Books by Miss Dorothy L. Hull; and Children's Literature and Story-Telling by Miss Mary T. Haugh.

Summer Course in Children's Literature

WILHELMINA HARPER, formerly Supervisor of Children's Work in the Kern County Free Library, who is giving the course in Children's Literature at the University of California School of Librarianship, will give the same course at the Riverside Library School during the summer.

Broadcasting from Public Libraries

THAT public libraries are making more use of the radio for broadcasting book talks and library information is shown by the following list of libraries broadcasting regularly, given by Charles H. Brown, Chairman of the A. L. A. Committee on Radio Broadcasting, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa. Other libraries may be broadcasting regular program, and Mr. Brown would be glad to have the names and hours of broadcasting of any library not included in his list.

Library	*Name of Station*	*Day and Hour*
Buffalo Public Library, Buffalo, N. Y.	WKBW	Thursday, 7:45 p. m.
Grosvenor Library, Buffalo, N. Y.	WKBW	Friday, 7:30 p. m.
Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, Cincinnati, Ohio	WFBE	Wednesday, 8 p. m.
	WLW	Saturday, 11 a. m.
Des Moines Public Library, Des Moines, Iowa	WHO	Tuesday, 5:15 p. m.
	KHJ	Wednesday, 2:30 p. m.
Los Angeles Public Library, Los Angeles, Cal.	KFI	Monday, 5:45 p. m.
Omaha Public Library, Omaha, Neb.	WOW	Wednesday, 4 p. m.
	KEX	Thursday, 4 p. m.
Library Association of Portland, Oregon	KWJJ	Sunday, 2 p. m.
	KOAC	Monday, 8 p. m.
St. Louis Public Library, St. Louis, Mo.	KMOX	Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri., 12:45.
Iowa State College Library, Ames, Iowa	WOI	Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat., 9:10 a. m. Wednesday, 10 a. m.
New York Public Library, New York	WNYC	Thursday, 5:30 p. m.

Western Reserve

THE practical aspects of Library Administration are being presented in a series of eight lectures by Carl Vitz, Librarian of the Toledo Public Library, continuing the course on Library Administration given by the Dean during the first semester.

A New Scheme

AT the Louisville Public Library, Kentucky, the following slip is tipped in between the last two printed pages of text.

> If you have enjoyed this book and found it worth while—interesting or profitable—why not increase its usefulness by recommending it to your friends. It may be reserved by writing or telephoning to the Library where you borrowed it.
>
> Please return the book promptly as others may be waiting for it.
>
> GEORGE T. SETTLE, Librarian

Book Drive for Seamen

PRESIDENT HOOVER has graciously consented to become honorary president of the American Merchant Marine Library Association, whose annual book drive in New York began Monday, April 8. While the headquarters of the Public Library of the High Seas is at 67 Wall Street, New York, dispatch offices are maintained in eleven other ports on the American seaboard and the Great Lakes, and the actual circulation of books for 1928 was 258,448. The greatest distribution is from the port of New York.

The books are shipped in boxes which hold 75 volumes, each carefully chosen to include fiction and non-fiction, to vessels in docks, to lighthouses, to life-saving stations, and to the coast guards. Magazines in bundles of 50 or more are sent with each box of books, and are not returned. All seamen are invited to send in lists of books and magazines preferred. An experienced librarian devotes the greatest part of her time to selecting books that men like, in the light of requests made, and the condition of the books returned.

The Public Libraries of Brooklyn and New York will receive books during the week of April 8 on behalf of the American Merchant Marine Library Association, and after the close of the drive books may be sent to the national headquarters, 67 Wall Street, New York City.

Simmons

THE class in Library work with children on February 28 visited the children's departments of Norfolk House Settlement and of the Fellowes Athenæum branch of the Boston Public Library.

On the same afternoon one group of students visited the Library Bureau on Federal Street and another group was conducted through the Cambridge factory.

The term examinations ended March 15 and were followed by the spring vacation.

One of the big experiences of the year is always the fortnight of field work in the spring term. This year it extended from March 25 through April 5. Some sixty institutions have acted as hostesses to the students, including public and college libraries, high schools, hospitals, bookstores, the Library of Congress and government departments.

The geographical range was from Maine to Washington, and west to Detroit, but New England accommodated half the group of seventy-four students. Toronto, through the courtesy of Doctor Locke, opened its doors to one of our Canadian students.

Opportunities

No charge is made to LIBRARY JOURNAL *subscribers for insertion of notices in this department.*

United States Civil Service Examinations

The United States Civil Service Commission announces the following open competitive examination:

Hospital Librarian

Applications for hospital librarian must be on file with the Civil Service Commission at Washington, D. C., not later than May 7.

The examination is to fill vacancies in the Veterans' Bureau throughout the United States, and in positions requiring similar qualifications.

The entrance salary is $1,800 a year. Higher-salaried positions are filled through promotion.

Competitors will be rated on mental tests, library economy, cataloguing and classification, and a modern language.

Appointment may also be made from this examination to the position of assistant librarian at the entrance salary of $1,620 a year.

* * *

Agricultural Writer (Radio)

Applications for agricultural writer (radio) must be on file with the Civil Service Commission at Washington, D. C., not later than April 24.

The examination is to fill vacancies in the office of the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and in positions requiring similar qualifications.

The entrance salary is $2,900 a year. Higher-salaried positions are filled through promotion.

The duties are to adapt agricultural subject-matter for effective radio presentation; to inject interest into the radio programs; to assume responsibility for providing attractive program material and speakers from the department staff to broadcasting stations and networks, and to originate plans which will interest farmers in making application of information obtained by radio.

Competitors will not be required to report for examination at any place, but will be rated on their education and experience, specimens of writings for broadcasting or publication, to be filed by the applicant and a practical test.

Full information may be obtained from the United States Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C., or the secretary of the United States Civil Service Board of Examiners at the post office or customhouse in any city.

* * *

College graduate with library school training, high school library and teaching experience; at present college librarian; desires change to position in or near New York City. G.15.

* * *

Classifier and cataloger, now in charge of cataloging in medium sized library in the East, desires similar position in the Far West. Has several years' experience, three years of college and two years of library school training. Available September 1. H.14.

* * *

Library school and college graduate holding the M.A. degree wishes to consider change in position. Reference or administrative work in a college or historical library preferred. Several years of experience in college libraries. G.14.

Trained Librarian, ten years' experience, including three years' cataloging, two years' reference, one year in charge of small library, wishes new position August or September 1. Extensive knowledge of government documents. Prefer Middle West or West; position in reference department or involving administrative or reference work. G.13.

* * *

Medical librarian wishes to change her position to one in or near Los Angeles. Library school and university graduate. G.16.

* * *

Wanted—Position by university and library school graduate with five years' experience in university, normal school and public libraries. Address: Librarian, Alma Public Library, Alma, Mich.

* * *

Cataloger Available—Library school training and experience in charge of cataloging in public school and special libraries. H.10.

* * *

Librarian with six years' experience desires position in reference or circulation department. Will do substitute work. H.13.

* * *

Librarian with wide organizing experience, familiar with both adult and children's work, would like to make a change. Would consider branch librarianship or extension work in any locality. H.12.

* * *

Wanted—Position in college or university library. M.A.; library school diploma; general library experience, 4 years; cataloger, 6 years. H 15

* * *

Librarian, college graduate, library school training with sixteen years of experience in public, high school, and college libraries wishes position of reference or administrative nature in college, large public, or special library. Eastern states preferred. Available September 1. H 16

Of Interest to Librarians

THE National Association of Appointment Secretaries is printing a complete report of the five sessions of its Cleveland meeting. Copies of the report may be obtained at cost price from Miss Lucy O'Meara, appointment bureau, Radcliffe College, Cambridge, Mass. The subjects included will be: Problems of the Placement Office; Integration of College Personnel Work; Vocational Activities of Students; Vocational Information and Guidance; Motivation of Superior and Inferior Students; Recruiting, Placing and Subsequent Training of College Graduates; A Follow-Up Study Through College of 2000 Freshmen; A Study of Careers of 15,000 Business and Professional Women; Measurement of Vocational Interest, and Coordination of Efforts of Organizations Interested.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, Of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, published Twice-a-month, at New York, N. Y., for April 1, 1929.

STATE OF NEW YORK, } ss.
COUNTY OF NEW YORK, }

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared J. A. Holden, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is Business Manager of the R. R. Bowker Co., publishers of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business manager are:

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Managing Editor . . . . . BERTINE E. WESTON
62 West 45th St., New York
Business Manager . . . . . JOHN A. HOLDEN
62 West 45th St., New York

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3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are:
NONE.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustees or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the persons or corporation for whom such trustee is acting is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation, has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

J. A. HOLDEN, *Secretary.*

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 25th day of March, 1929.
ARMOND FRASCA,
Notary Public, New York Co., N. Y., No. 143,
Reg. No. 7028.
[Seal] (My commission expires March 30, 1929.)

Michigan

ONE of the most important and significant gatherings held at Alma College for some years occurred recently when the completed Library building was opened to faculty members and a number of invited guests. The formal opening was the culmination of years of planning and effort on the part of Miss Annette Persis Ward, librarian, and the library board. It would be impossible to estimate the work and thought which have gone into remodeling of the Library and arrangement of its literary material.

Minnesota

A DIPLOMA of honor for the reading of 30 books a year from the school library is given pupils in the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades of Fergus Falls (Minn.) schools. The reading of 15 books is required of all pupils in these grades.

Correction

In the March 15 issue of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, page 264, a release copied from the *Educational Record* regarding an article by Davis A. Robertson states that his address was given at the University of Michigan. This address was given the summer of 1928 at the University of Minnesota.

THE CALENDAR

April 18-19—Louisiana Library Association will meet in New Orleans at the Bienville Hotel.
April 18-20—Tennessee Library Association, Annual Meeting at Murfreesboro, Tenn.
April 21—Annual Dinner of United Staff Association of the Public Libraries of the City of New York at Hotel Commodore, New York City.
May 4-8—California Library Association will meet at Sacramento, Cal.
May 4-11—National Congress of Parents-Teachers, Washington, D. C.
May 9—International Book Exhibit, Seville, Spain.
May 13-15—Special Libraries Conference, Washington, D. C.
May 13-18—A. L. A. Conference, Washington, D. C.
May 20—Book Fair, Barcelona, Spain.
May 20-22—American Association for Adult Education, Chapel Hill, N. C.
May 29—Annual Conference, Maine Library Association, Bangor, Me.
June 6—Rhode Island Library Association at Westerly.
June 15-19—World Congress of Libraries and Bibliography, Rome.
June 25-26—Continued Conferences at Venice.
Aug. 22-29—Fourth Annual Conference, World Conference on Adult Education, Cambridge, England.
Oct. 16-18—Illinois Library Association, Annual Meeting at Urbana, Ill.
Oct. 17-19—Missouri Library Association will meet at Jefferson City, Mo.
Oct. 23-25—Indiana Library Association, Annual Meeting at Gary, Ind.
Nov. 7-8—Indiana Library Trustees Association will meet at Indianapolis, Ind.
Oct. 7-12—New York Library Association, Annual Meeting at Lake Placid, N. Y.

Current Books on Business

ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

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The practicing accountant will find this book extremely helpful. It emphasizes working methods and technique. The following topics are treated clearly, illustrated by forms and practical problems: Statements—Explanation of Assets and Liabilities—Recording Transactions—Double Entry Accounting—Trading and Expense Accounts—Closing the Books—Working Trial Balance—Double and Single Entry Systems—Analysis of Financial Statements—Working Capital—Liquidation Profits or Losses—Partnership Accounts—Corporation Accounts—Procedure in Organizing a Corporation. 270 pages. 6 by 9. Cloth, $3.50. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 440 Fourth Avenue, New York.

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MANAGERIAL PROFIT SHARING

By C. Canby Balderston

This book discusses every phase of managerial profit sharing. It outlines the working plans of numerous well-known plants. The purpose of the book is to point out, from an analysis of existing plans, the way in which extra compensation of executives may improve the caliber of management, effect better team work, and insure continued control of the enterprise. It is a new order of business operation with which every executive and company head should be familiar. 127 pages. 6 by 9. Cloth, $2.50. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 440 Fourth Avenue, New York.

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This book is an attempt to examine critically the leading types of collective negotiations, and to review their merits and defects, from the viewpoints of employer, employee and the public. Trade unionism, employee representation and the combination of these two which is known as union-management cooperation, are treated in turn. 312 pages. 6 by 9. Cloth, $3.00. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 440 Fourth Avenue, New York.

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The widespread and increasing utilization of insurance by the American people has given rise to the problem of state insurance competing with private companies. This is a comprehensive and impartial survey of every type of insurance undertaken by the state. It embodies information secured directly from state officials and insurance men by the author. The book should prove invaluable to those who heretofore have not had at their disposal the combined experience of all such funds. $3.50. University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia.

TEXTILE DIRECTORIES

Published by Davison Publishing Company, 50 Union Square, New York; Davison's Textile Blue Book, with which is consolidated Dockham's American Report and Directory. Annual. Office edition, $7.50. Handy edition, $5.00. Davison's Textile Directory for Salesmen. Annual. Pocket Size, Price $4.00. Davison's Knit Goods Trade, Annual. Office edition, $6.00. Pocket edition, $4.00. Davison's Silk and Rayon Trades, Annual. Office edition, $6.00. Pocket edition, $4.00. Davison's Cordage, Twine and Duck Trade. Bi-annual. Price $3.00. Davison's Mattress Directory. Annual. Price $3.50. Davison's Textile Buyers Guide. Annual. Free to Textile Mill Purchasing Agents.

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Boston, Massachusetts

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ACCOMMODATIONS:

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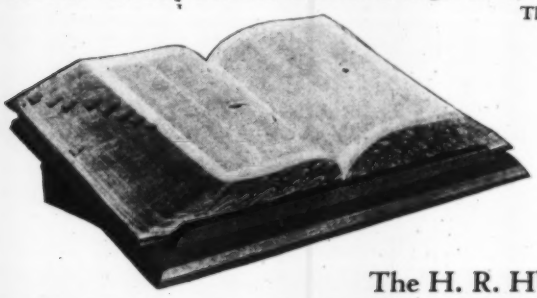

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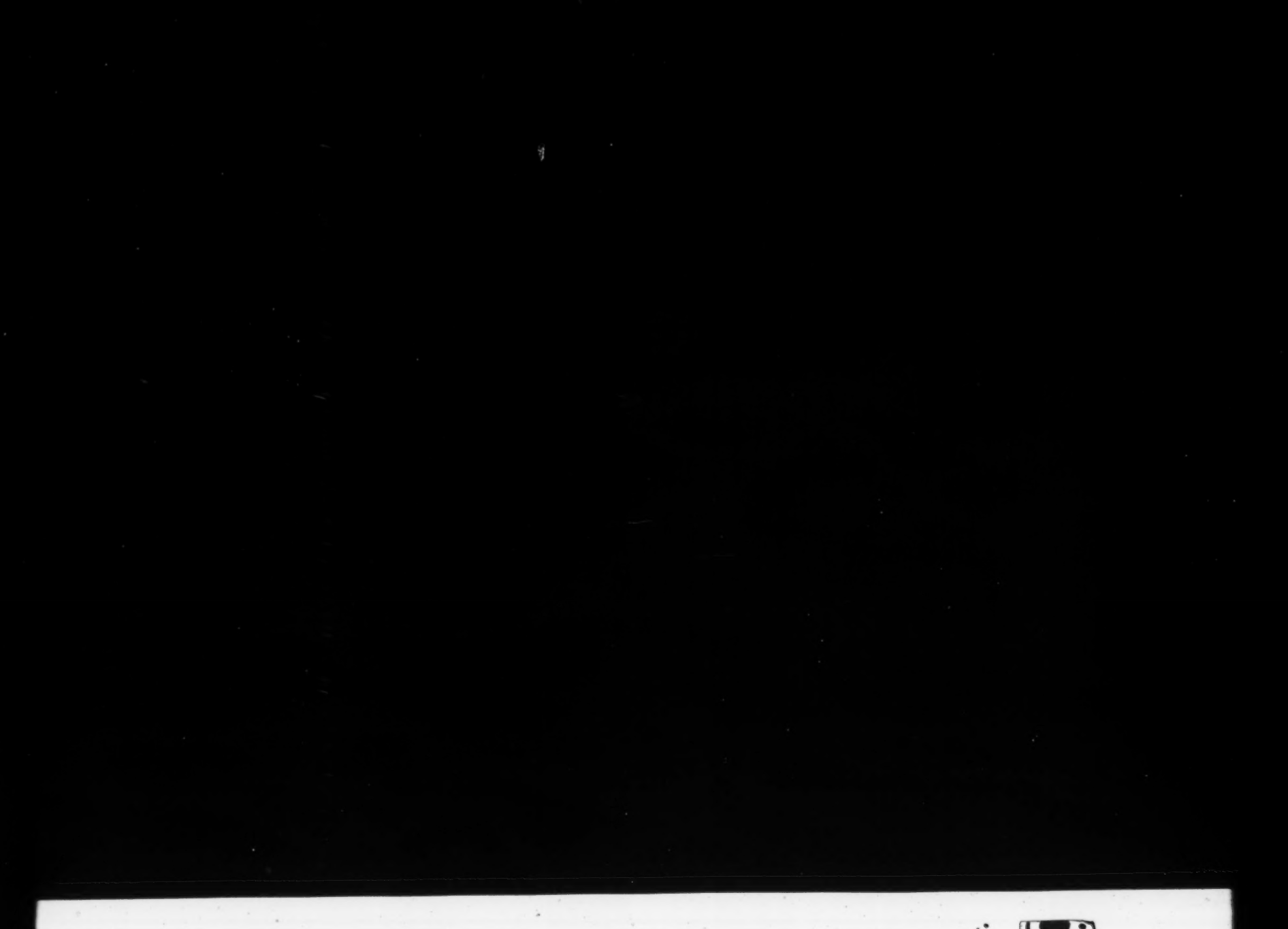
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